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Coalition boycotting vote on bill to dissolve the Knesset

By MICHAL YUDELMAN

After a day of frantic wheeling and dealing to prevent a majority for the bill to dissolve the Knesset, Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu and coalition chairman Meir Sheetrit decided last night that the coalition would boycott today's vote on the bill's preliminary reading.

The decision came after the opposition parties appeared to have stitched together a majority for the bill. For the bill to pass, even at this preliminary stage, would constitute a significant moral blow for Netanyahu and the coalition.

Netanyahu yesterday dismissed the bill as "an empty ploy" and said if it passes it will be "no more than a propaganda achievement" for the opposition and will not affect the government's stability.

"It's not very important. For the first, second and third reading, a majority of 61 MKs will be required. If the opposition had such a majority, it could topple the Knesset every day. But it doesn't," Netanyahu said.

Netanyahu denied reports of "marathon" meetings with wavering MKs. But he did not have a moment to spare to join the Likud faction in toasting the end of the Knesset term.

The numbers tipped in favor of the bill last night, with 52 opposition members favoring it in addition to up to nine coalition MKs who said they would vote for dissolving the Knesset and advance elections.

These included two to three members of Yisrael Ba'aliya, Moledet's Benny Elon, five Gesher members and the National Religious Party's Hanan Porat.

Before Sheetrit's announcement, several others were still wavering, or not saying how they would vote.

Likud MK Ze'ev (Benny) Begin said he would not take part. Dan Meridor, Shaul Amor and David Re'em of Likud, Eli Gabai of the NRP, and The Third Way's four members declined to say how they would vote.

MK Emanuel Zissmann (Third Way) said the faction's tendency is to vote for dissolving the Knesset, but it decided not to make up its mind "until the last moment, as a means of pressuring the prime minister to reach an agreement with the Palestinians."

Meridor said he would not vote against dissolving the Knesset, but would not say whether he intends to abstain or be absent.

He met four MKs to discuss today's vote in what was widely perceived as an open "rebellion" and the setting up of a power base for being a contestant for prime minister. The MKs were David Magen, of Gesher, Re'em and Amor, of the Likud, and Eliezer Zandberg of Tsomet.

Amor, one of the MKs whom Netanyahu met yesterday, said afterwards: "I suggest to the prime minister to initiate dissolving the Knesset, because we cannot continue like this, with unemployment growing and the increasing social plight. If this continues, Netanyahu will fall anyway."

Porat, who also met with the prime minister, said afterwards he had decided to vote for the Knesset's dissolution. Netanyahu asked to meet him again.

Netanyahu also met Elon, who said he would vote for the bill.

Arab MKs met with Labor Party leader Ehud Barak and MKs Eli Goldschmidt, Yossi Beilin and Uzi Baram. They presented a series of demands, but said these were not conditions for supporting the bill.

Transport Minister Shaul Yahalom, of the NRP, called on right-wing MKs and especially Porat and Gesher's Michael Kleiner, to vote against the bill.

"Gambling on elections today is the biggest foolishness the Right can do now," he said. "Anyone who joins MKs [Abdel-Wahab] Darawshe and [Yossi] Sarid will ultimately bring us to new elections and perhaps even a government headed by the Left."

Rajoub warns of war; calls PM 'racist and a liar'

By MONA ELTAHAWY

War with Israel is a possibility if Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu does not implement peace accords, Jibril Rajoub, head of the Palestinian Preventive Security Service in the West Bank, said yesterday.

"Netanyahu is racist and bloody. He is leading his people and the area to bloodshed and killing. He is a liar. He starts to lie as soon as he opens his mouth," Rajoub said.

Speaking to foreign correspondents, Rajoub blamed Netanyahu for a 16-month deadlock in peace talks. Rajoub spoke at a briefing hours before Israeli and Palestinian negotiators met to discuss the issues that have bogged down peace talks.

"We don't want to see war, but if war happens we have no other choice... We are preparing ourselves to implement the [peace] agreement, but if he [Netanyahu] doesn't implement, all options are open, including confrontation," Rajoub said.

"Hundreds from both sides will be killed. If Israel tries to enter our areas, battles will also happen in certain Israeli areas," he said.

Palestinian officials often have warned that if the peacemaking impasse continued, they would not be able to control popular anger in areas under their control.

Israeli security sources said earlier this month that military intelligence believed a deadlock in Middle East peacemaking had increased the likelihood of war in 1999. The prediction focused on a target date of May 1999, when Palestinian Authority Chairman Yasser Arafat has said he will declare an independent Palestinian state if the final status talks with Israel are not completed.

Israel has said any unilateral Palestinian declaration of statehood would be met with a unilateral Israeli response – a veiled threat to annex part of the West Bank and Gaza still under Israeli control.

Rajoub said that in case of confrontation, IDF soldiers would not be facing members of Hamas and other militant Islamic groups.

"If there is a confrontation it will be between the Palestinian Police and the Israelis. We've never used Hamas and we never will," Rajoub said.

"He [Netanyahu] is going to lose. We have nothing to lose but [Jewish] settlements and suffering," he added.

Rajoub brushed aside rumors he might succeed Arafat, saying he hoped the Palestinian leader would outlive any potential successors.

Rajoub said he would continue his boycott of contacts with his Israeli counterparts until they returned Palestinian prisoners he said Israel kidnapped last November. In November the IDF said it had seized two suspected members of Hamas as Rajoub's officers were transporting them from Hebron to Nablus. (Reuters)

Lewinsky gets immunity; will testify she had sex with Clinton

By LARRY MARGASAK

Former White House intern Monica Lewinsky arrives at her lawyer's offices in Washington yesterday. (Reuters)

WASHINGTON (AP) – Monica Lewinsky has been given blanket immunity in exchange for testimony in Kenneth Starr's six-month investigation of her relationship with President Bill Clinton, Lewinsky's attorneys said yesterday.

"We, as counsel for Monica Lewinsky, have reached an agreement today that for her full and truthful testimony she will receive transactional immunity in this case," said Plato Cacheris, one of her attorneys.

Stock prices tumbled in New York as the stepped-up pace of events in the White House sex scandal added to the bearish brew already rattling investors.

The Dow Jones industrial average ended off 93.46 points, or 1 percent, at 8,934.78. In the broad market, declining issues beat advances 3 to 1 on heavy volume of 703 million shares on the New York Stock Exchange. The Nasdaq composite index plunged 37.38 points, or 1.9%, to 1,895.88.

Lewinsky's mother, Marcia Lewis, was granted the same level of protection from prosecution, said her attorney, Billy Martin. The mother had frequent telephone conversations with her daughter about Lewinsky's relationship with Clinton, according to 20 hours of tape recordings between Lewinsky and former friend Linda Tripp.

After talking to prosecutors for five hours on Monday, Lewinsky has agreed to testify that she had a sexual relationship with the president, legal sources said.

Lewinsky's account also includes information relevant to Starr's probe of possible obstruction of justice by Clinton and his associates in Paula Jones's sexual harassment case against the president, said the sources.

But she did not say Clinton asked her to lie, the sources said.

"Her lawyer said that she's going to give complete and truthful testimony, and if she does, that should present no problem to the president, obviously," White House spokesman Mike McCurry said. "I think he's pleased that things will work out for her."

Clinton talked with his lawyer, David Kendall, earlier yesterday, McCurry said.

Lewinsky arrived by taxi at her lawyers' office about an hour before the statement was read to scores of reporters. She did not appear with Cacheris and her two other attorneys, Jacob Stein and Nathaniel Speights.

Transactional immunity means that Lewinsky will not be prosecuted for any testimony that she gives to Starr's office regarding matters under investigation. It is the most protective type of immunity that can be granted to a witness.

The agreement for Lewinsky's testimony was reached after the former White House intern was interviewed for five hours Monday by Starr's prosecutors in New York City.

Lewinsky's account closely tracked her lawyers' proffer – a pledge to provide specific evidence in exchange for immunity – to prosecutors early in the probe, according to a key source.

In that proffer, Lewinsky was said to have told of having a sexual relationship with the president. She did not say Clinton asked her to lie, the sources said.

The source said the earlier proffer contained "a fair amount of information" dealing with Lewinsky's conversations with the president and his confidants about how they would deal with the Jones lawsuit against Clinton.

The president denied under oath in the Jones case that he'd had sexual relations with Lewinsky and she filed an affidavit in the suit saying "I have never had a sexual relationship with the president."

Meanwhile, Lewinsky's former friend, Linda Tripp, returned yesterday for more testimony before the grand jury.

In the US legal system, grand juries are convened by courts to determine whether sufficient evidence exists to warrant trials in criminal cases.

"It's going to be an interesting week, we think," said Tripp's spokesman, Philip Coughter, who accompanied her to the federal courthouse.

A number of Secret Service personnel also entered the courthouse to testify before the grand jury in the perjury and obstruction probe.

Six additional Secret Service uniformed officers have been subpoenaed to testify this week, Mike Leibig, head of an association of Secret Service officers, said Monday.

Eleven Secret Service personnel have given grand jury testimony in the Lewinsky probe so far.

On Monday, Starr won a majority victory from a panel of the US Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia. The court rejected Clinton's claim of attorney-client confidentiality and ordered presidential adviser Bruce Lindsey to answer questions before a grand jury.

King Hussein vows to beat lymphoma

AMMAN (AP) – King Hussein told his people yesterday that he is undergoing treatment for lymphatic cancer and said he expects to recover fully.

Hussein said he first received chemotherapy on Sunday and "my general condition is excellent, my mind is clear and my morale is high." Hussein, who has been hospitalized in the Mayo Clinic in Rochester, Minnesota, since July 14, spoke in a satellite interview with Jordanian television. Hussein, 62, spoke strongly in two interviews in Arabic and English.

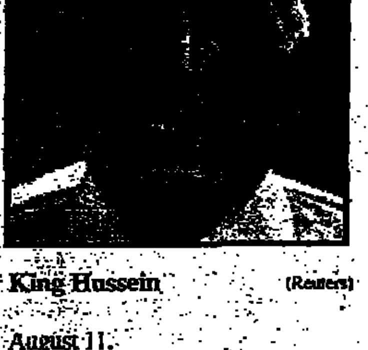
"This is a new battle among the many battles and with God's help, we will fully overcome this problem," Hussein said. He wore a light-blue shirt and a dark-blue tie.

The clinic, in a statement released yesterday, said Hussein has lymphoma, or cancer of the lymphatic tissue, and "this condition is highly treatable with chemotherapy." It said Hussein will receive six four-day chemotherapy treatments every 21 to 24 days.

The clinic said results of the first cycle of chemotherapy "are very encouraging."

"His temperature has returned to normal and the blood tests show signs of significant improvement," the clinic said.

Hussein is the longest-reigning ruler in the Middle East. He is due to celebrate 46 years on the throne on August 11.



King Hussein (Reuters)

Hussein underwent surgery to remove cancer from his ureter and left kidney at the Mayo Clinic in 1992 and has had regular medical checkups at the clinic since.

He had an operation in November 1997 to remove an inflamed lymph gland that was found to be benign. In April 1997, he had surgery for an enlarged prostate that also was benign.

Silvan Shalom: Gov't policies helped create unemployment

By DAVID HARRIS

Science Minister Silvan Shalom said yesterday the mix of tight monetary policy and the government's huge budget cuts over the last two years have led to the sharp rise in unemployment.

The minister denied he has been approached to replace Finance Minister Yaakov Neeman, as speculation increased yesterday that Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu is looking to remove the finance minister.

Prime Minister's Office Director-General Moshe Leon dismissed the rumors, saying Neeman has the prime minister's full support.

Full report, Page 13

INVITATION TO SUBMIT BIDS TO PURCHASE LAND RIGHTS

1. Bids are hereby sought for the purchase of lease rights to the land that includes a house at 18 Netiv Hamazalot Alley, Old Jaffa and that is known at the Old Jaffa Development Co. Ltd., whose office is at 17 Mazal Dagim Alley, Old Jaffa (hereinafter "the company"), as leased premises number 115 (hereinafter: "the asset").
2. The asset is offered "as is", empty, with none of the equipment, furniture or any other contents located therein; and the undersigned and/or their proxies and/or anyone acting on their behalf bear no responsibility concerning its physical and/or legal and/or planning status and/or the nature of the asset and/or its quality and/or the quality of the construction and/or any other information about the asset, its designation, its possibilities for use and utilization, the substance of its rights, the rights of third parties, the status of the registration of the rights at the company, with any national, governmental, municipal and/or other authority, and the bidder himself has the responsibility of inspecting all this at his responsibility, and the conveying of information by the undersigned shall not derogate from the aforesaid.
3. The rights that are the subject of this invitation are sub-letting rights from the company, on the terms and period which remains according to the agreement dated 24.5.67, a copy of which is available in the office of the undersigned Adv. Goldin. It is the bidder's responsibility prior to submitting his bid to check the sub-lease rights and the company's requirements with Adv. Goldin.
4. The bidder must meet the company's conditions concerning his eligibility to be a lessor and meet its requirements in this respect and it is the bidder's responsibility to receive its consent to sign with him an agreement which will include its requirements and lease conditions, in the version to be prepared by the company. The Board of Directors of the company will decide on the eligibility after the company receives from the executors of the estate the inclusive list of bidders and the public committee of the company will submit its recommendations in regard of the eligibility for the examination of the Board of Directors. Only a signed agreement by the authorized signatories of the company will bind the company. A copy of the draft agreement is available at the offices of the undersigned Adv. Goldin. The lease fee that will be paid to the company by the new lessee after the rights will be transferred to him will be the sum of NIS 250 per month linked to the cost of living, on the basis of the November 1997 index, in addition to VAT as prescribed by law.
5. It is possible to obtain the version of the contract that the bidder undertakes to sign if his bid is accepted from Adv. Ivor Goldin, 94 Allenby St., Tel Aviv, 03-560-1938, with whom it is also possible to coordinate a visit to the asset.
6. The asset has been evaluated by a property assessor to be worth one million US dollars, as of 6.5.97.
7. All taxes, levies, fees and any other payment of any kind whatsoever existing today and/or that may exist in the future, including purchase tax and betterment tax (with the exception of land appreciation tax, if this should apply, as well as the payment to the company for giving its consent, which will be paid by the executors of the estate), applying to the asset or the sale thereof, shall be incumbent upon the winning bidder and will be paid by him alone. Attention is drawn to the fact that the company does not enable receiving mortgages, but is willing to give a letter of undertaking to the bank, a copy of the version of which is available in the offices of Adv. Goldin.
8. The transfer of the rights in the asset to the name of the winning bidder will be effected by the bidder and/or his representative, and any payment related to the transfer, including attorney's fees, shall be the responsibility of, and at the expense of, the winning bidder.
9. Bids for the purchase of the rights in the asset are to be submitted in writing to Adv. Ivor Goldin, of 94 Allenby St., Tel Aviv 65813, no later than 12 noon on 23.8.98. The bid must be accompanied by a bank guarantee or a bank check as stipulated below, as well as by the company's approval, as mentioned above in Section 4.
10. The bid must be accompanied by an unconditional bank guarantee, linked to the official exchange rate of the U.S. Dollar, valid for a period of at least four months from the last date for the submission of bids, or a bank check, made out to Adv. Ivor Goldin, in the amount of 10% of the bid. The undersigned shall be entitled to claim and/or cash in the bank guarantee or the bank check, as the case may be, in whole or in part, in the event that the winning bidder does not pay the consideration of the sale in accordance with his bid or does not comply with a term of his bid and/or if the bidder reneges on his bid.
11. The guarantee or the bank check, as the case may be, of a losing bidder shall be returned to him within seven days of the date his bid was rejected.
12. The bidder must specify in his bid the amount of his bid in U.S. Dollars (to be paid in New Israel Shekels according to the official exchange rate of the US. Dollar on the date of the actual payment), the payment date of the amount of his bid, as well as the particulars of his name, identity card number and address.
13. The undersigned do not undertake to accept the highest bid or any other bid, and they shall be entitled, at their sole discretion, at any stage whatsoever, to conduct negotiations with another bidder or bidders, severally and/or individually, as well as to hold a competitive sale among the bidders, or some of them and/or others, and/or to advertise additional offers to propose bids for the purchase of the rights in the asset, and they do not undertake to reveal details of the winning bid or reasons for its acceptance.
14. Neither the undersigned nor anyone acting on their behalf shall pay agents' fees.
15. The sale of the rights in the asset is subject to the signing of a contract with the bidder in a version to be drawn up by Adv. Ivor Goldin, as well as to the approval of the Tel Aviv District Court, and the undersigned will sign the contract only after having obtained the Tel Aviv District Court's approval and the signature of the bidder. Furthermore, the sale of the rights in the asset is subject to the consent of the company, and if consent is given, in fulfilling the requirements and conditions and the signature of the undersigned and the bidder on the agreement in the version which will be prepared by the company.
16. The undersigned reserve the right to extend and/or change any date or condition determined by them in this invitation.

Dr. Bertie Hammer
16/17 Bar Eli Street
Tel Aviv

Adv. Abe Goldin
94 Allenby Street
Tel Aviv

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NEWS
in brief

Bushinsky replacing Bazak

Aviv Bushinsky, Army Radio's diplomatic reporter, is expected to begin working as Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu's spokesman instead of Shai Bazak in a few days. Bushinsky's appointment is not official yet, but sources in the Prime Minister's Office confirmed it.

Bushinsky yesterday denied that he had been asked to go on leave from Army Radio. He said he decided to go on leave after consulting with the station commanders, understanding that it would not be ethical on his part to cover the Prime Minister's Office while his negotiations with the office over his new position were under way.

Michal Yudelman

Arafat is ready to present new cabinet

Rawhi Fattouh, secretary of the Palestinian Legislative Council, told *The Jerusalem Post* yesterday that Palestinian Authority Chairman Yasser Arafat has told him that his new cabinet is ready and will be presented to the PLC next week. Fattouh said that "at least eight new members will join the next cabinet." He refused to give their names.

Mohammed Najib

Confrontation in Gaza

A confrontation ensued last night at the Morag settlement in Gaza, after Palestinians tried to build a structure near the community and refused to obey IDF orders to leave the area.

Palestinian Police were called in to try to persuade the squatters to leave, but the police was unsuccessful.

Settlers from Morag threatened to forcibly dismantle the structure.

Mohammed Najib

Pullback negotiations continue

Israeli and Palestinian negotiators met for more than three hours last night in Tel Aviv to discuss the second pullback. Afterwards the Palestinians, headed by Minister of Local Councils Saeb Erekat, went to report on the results to Palestinian Authority deputy chairman Mahmoud Abbas, Palestinian sources said. It was agreed that the talks would resume tomorrow. Government coordinator for the territories, Maj.-Gen. Ya'acov Orr also took part in the talks.

Mohammed Najib and news agencies

Poll: Israeli support for Palestinian state drops

Support among Israeli Jews for the establishment of a Palestinian state has dropped in the past year, according to a survey released yesterday. The survey, conducted annually by the Jaffee Center for Strategic Studies, also found that fewer Israeli Jews believe that most Palestinians want peace.

The center polled 1,207 Jewish adults between late January and early March and found that while 66 percent believe a Palestinian state will eventually be established, just 44% support that happening. In 1997, 51% of Israeli Jews said they supported the establishment of a Palestinian state. Since 1997, the percentage of Israeli Jews who said they believe that most Palestinians want peace dropped from 65% to 55%, the survey found.

The poll also found a decrease in willingness to return land for peace – from 54% to 44% – although support remained high – 83%, compared to 89% in 1997 – for continuing peace talks with the Palestinians. The poll's margin of error was 2.8%.

AP

Youths suspected of torching Arab property

Two 15-year-olds from Kiryat Arba were arrested yesterday morning on suspicion of belonging to an illegal underground organization, and of setting fire to Arabs' cars and fields in Hebron two months ago.

Upon their arrest, the General Security Service had forbidden the boys to meet with a lawyer for four days. But after a three-hour deliberation in the Jerusalem Magistrate's Court over the legality of this, a judge "advised" police to let them confer with their lawyer, Naftali Wertzberger, with whom they met for 15 minutes.

Police believe they were involved in torching eight cars, two fields and two watermelon stands, all belonging to Hebron Arabs.

Amy Klein

SLA soldier killed by roadside bomb

An SLA soldier died yesterday in a roadside explosion in southern Lebanon, making him the third SLA trooper to die in action since July 16.

The IDF said the blast occurred near Beit Yahoun in the zone's western sector at 6:20 as an SLA foot patrol was passing.

Hizbullah claimed responsibility.Israeli and SLA artillery retaliated by shelling suspected guerrilla hideouts at Baraachite, just outside the security zone, the IDF said. Reports from Lebanon said one Lebanese civilian was injured in the shelling.

The SLA militiaman, who was not identified, is the 15th killed this year, about the same figure as for all of 1997. Eight IDF soldiers have been killed in the same period.

Arieh O'Sullivan

Ethiopia seeks Israeli mediation with Eritrea

Ethiopia is seeking Israeli mediation in its dispute with Eritrea over territory allegedly seized by the Eritreans and which the Addis Ababa government intends to retrieve by force if necessary. An official letter spelling out the Ethiopian government's position and addressed to Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu was brought here by visiting Foreign Minister Takeda Alemu and presented to Foreign Ministry Director-General Eitan Bentsur.

"We are willing to offer our assistance to both countries," a senior government source said. "Both countries involved in this conflict are friendly towards Israel."

Alemu contended that mediation efforts by the US and the Organization of African Unity have not born fruit and requested Israel's assistance in resolving the conflict.

Jay Bushinsky

Teacher's remand extended

Tel Aviv Magistrate's Court yesterday extended by 24 hours the remand of Nava Shirabi, a teacher who is suspected of abusing the children in her care.

Shirabi, 43, of Tel Aviv, is suspected of tying a six-year-old to a chair and then beating him and of leaving the children unattended while she went out to run errands. Shirabi is to be released to house arrest today.

Itim

Capital police nab 400 for speeding

The Jerusalem police traffic department gave out more than 1,000 tickets yesterday as part of a special operation in Jerusalem, police said. Four hundred of the 1,000 tickets were given for speeding. One motorcyclist received a ticket for driving 150 kph on the Ramot highway – which has a 70 kph speed limit.

During yesterday's operation, police said they removed 45 cars from the road due to expired registrations. They also arrested a 25-year-old woman who never had a license. She was questioned and released on bail.

Amy Klein

Five buses taken off the roads

In a spot check this week of buses transporting children to a day camp at Mikve Yisrael, five of the 13 buses checked were taken off the roads due to safety deficiencies.Seven of the buses did not have the proper roadworthiness certificates.

Itim

The National Institute for Psychobiology in Israel
and
The Charles E. Smith Family Laboratory
for Collaborative Research in Psychobiology
share the grief of
Prof. Bernard Lerer, Director of the Institute
and his family
on the sad loss of his mother
THELMA LERER ז"ל
המקום ינחם אתכם בתוך שאר אבלי ציון וירושלים

Morocco meet aims to pressure Israel over talks deadlock

ANALYSIS

By BARRY RUBIN

For Arabs and Moslems, Jerusalem is the most touchy issue of all in the Arab-Israeli conflict. Today's meeting in Morocco of the Islamic Conference Organization's 16-member Jerusalem Committee reflects that priority and sensitivity.

King Hassan of Morocco, the committee's permanent chair, had postponed the group's 17th meeting so as not to harm the peace process or the moderate states' preference for more normal relations with Israel.

Apparently, though, the king concluded that pressure on Israel is needed to help break the current deadlock.

The meeting's immediate cause was the desire to respond to the Israeli government's recently announced plan to expand Jerusalem's administrative boundaries. This was widely perceived in the Arab world as a plan for annexation and tightening Israel's hold over east Jerusalem.

Indeed, the view that Israel does not intend to make concessions on east Jerusalem is understandable given repeated Israeli government statements, and it has been reinforced by such controversies as the opening of a second exit to the Western Wall tunnel and the proposed construction of a Jewish neighborhood on Har Homa.

While criticizing Israel is the easy part of any such meeting's agenda, the current conference's problem is to find some way of effectively countering or punishing Israel.

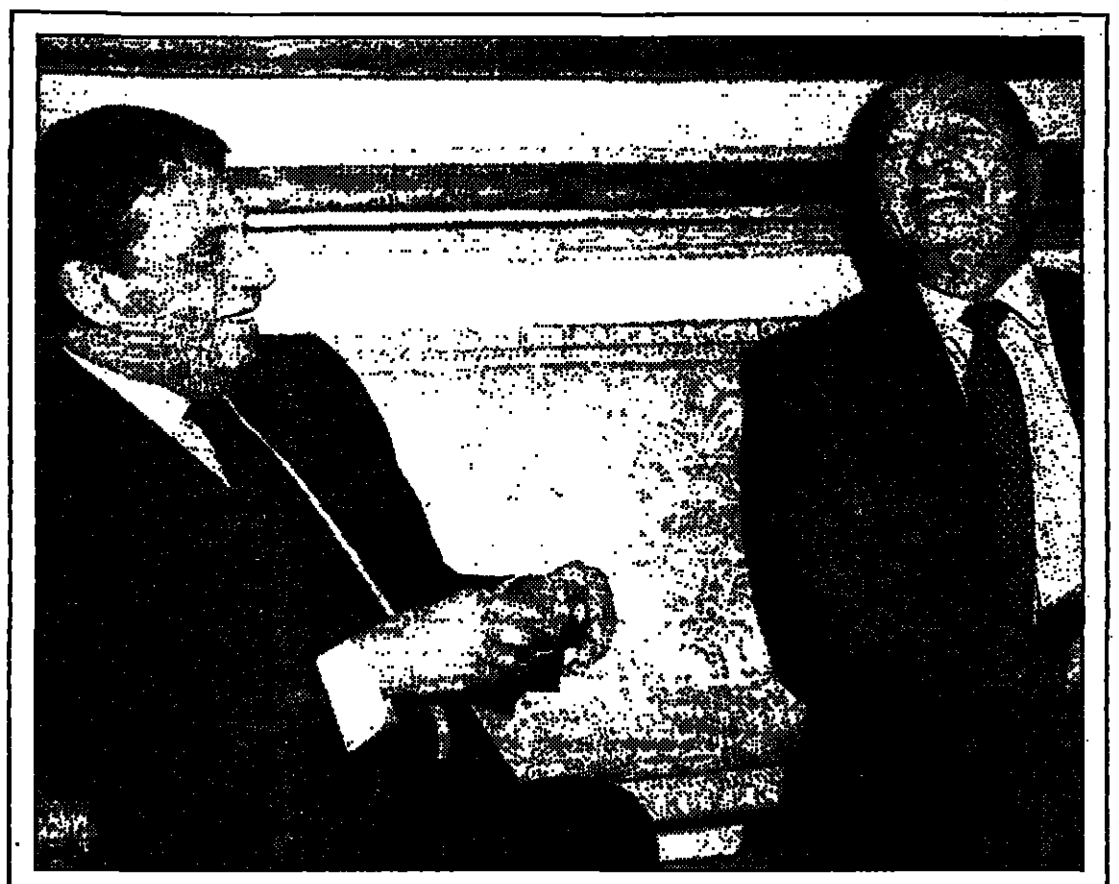
One of the most popular options is to hold another meeting. This could take the form of an Arab summit or a broader international gathering sponsored by Egypt and France.

Syria, Lebanon, and other Arab states, however, oppose this idea. The location, agenda, and guest list of either type of meeting are subjects of dispute among the Arab governments.

Another approach would be to formally freeze normalization between Arab or Islamic states and Israel. This has already largely taken place.

Given the strong feelings on the Jerusalem issue, what is surprising is not the critical statements from Arab and Islamic countries but the fact that they have done so little to effectively promote their stand on the issue.

The writer is a senior resident scholar at the BESA Center for Strategic Studies and editor of Middle East Review of International Affairs.



Pushing for a Mideast peace conference

French President Jaques Chirac, right, shares a laugh with Egyptian Foreign Minister Amr Moussa at the Elysee Palace in Paris yesterday. France and Egypt are setting up working groups to advance their proposal for an international conference to break the deadlock in the Middle East peace process (AP)

EU: 'Cautious' Syrian nod for peace conference

BEIRUT (Reuters) – European Union envoy Miguel Angel Moratinos said yesterday he had received "cautious" Syrian endorsement of a proposal by France and Egypt for a conference to rescue Arab-Israeli peace talks.

"I found in Syria a better understanding of what has been the idea of the conference. They want to be cautious in order that the conference be well prepared," Moratinos told reporters after meeting Speaker of Parliament Nabih Berri.

Asked if he had Syrian approval to prepare a conference Moratinos, the EU's Middle East peace envoy, said: "I have [an] OK in principle to start to seriously prepare the conference. But I mean they are still cautious."

Earlier yesterday, Moratinos and Syrian Foreign Minister Farouk Shara had discussed the conference in Damascus before the EU envoy headed to Lebanon on the second leg of a tour that will include Israel.

Moratinos said in Damascus the idea of the conference was taking shape but it needed adjustments to suit the parties concerned to make it acceptable and successful.

French President Jacques Chirac and Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak in May proposed an international conference to discuss problems in the Middle East peace process, but the idea received a cool Israeli response.

The proposed conference, which would exclude belligerents initially, was discussed by Syrian President Hafez Assad and Chirac in Paris in mid-July. Assad also discussed it with Mubarak during a visit to Cairo on Sunday.

Moratinos said Assad's talks with Chirac on the conference's initiative were very fruitful.

Syrian officials said Damascus would back any initiative to revive peace talks with Israel provided it was based on the same principles used when Arab-Israeli peace talks began in Madrid in 1991.

They said the initiative should also resume from the point they had reached after sporadic peace talks between Syria and Israel between 1991 and 1996.

Sharon, Deri, Weizman, Ben-Ami attack PM's peace policies

By MICHAL YUDELMAN

National Infrastructure Minister Ariel Sharon yesterday criticized the government's moves to reach a redeployment agreement with the Palestinians, blasting what he called "this passion to give away land."

"I believe we should and can reach a settlement, on condition that it's built on agreements that are good for us and for the other side," Sharon said, on his return from two weeks in China and Mongolia.

Sharon, who maintains that a 13% pullback from the territories would constitute a grave danger to the state, refused to say how he intends to vote today on the bill to dissolve the Knesset.

Nor would he elaborate on statements he made during his trip, that he was considering running for prime minister "if circumstances required it."

Other criticism of the government's handling of peace talks came from Shas party leader MK Aryeh Deri, who blasted the demand by Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu that the Palestinians convene the Palestinian National Council to cancel anti-Israel clauses in the Palestinian Covenant.

He said this is "a mistake which will cause damage to Israel," because it would bring a hostile body back to life and give it international standing.

President Ezer Weizman, for his part, urged the government again to speed up the peace process.

Speaking at the opening of the Histadrut convention at the Jerusalem International Convention Center, Weizman said peace would improve the Israeli economy.

"Who knows how many of the 200,000 unemployed people could have found work and made a living in the plants and industry that foreign and domestic investors would have built in an atmosphere of peace? Or in the new hotels that would have shot up to receive millions of peace tourists?" Weizman asked.

Meanwhile, Labor MK Shlomo Ben-Ami accused Netanyahu of misleading the public by creating an impression that he is conducting negotiations with the Palestinians when in fact, he isn't.

"The question is whether there are serious negotiations, not about a pullback but about peace. The feeling [on the Palestinian side] is that there is no such thing," Ben-Ami said, after meeting Palestinian leaders Saeb Erekat, Hassan Asfour and Mohammed Dahlan. MK Ephraim Oshaya (Labor) also attended the meeting.

Ben-Ami described the Palestinians' impressions as: "The Israelis come with some half-baked suggestion of a nature reserve, they didn't bring a formulated, orderly proposal, they didn't put any map on the table, and they don't really know what they're talking about."

Rejecting Ben-Ami's critique, a source close to Industry and Trade Minister Natan Sharansky said he is certain about the sincerity of its quest for peace.

"Sharansky believes the government is serious about wanting to carry out a second IDF troop pullback [in the West Bank]. Of course, it is not willing to do this at any price or under any conditions," the source said.

Iran expected to complete Shihab-3 prototype next year

By ARIEH O'SULLIVAN and LIAT COLLINS

Iran will complete its prototype of its Shihab-3 medium-range ballistic missile by next year and will start producing them by the end of the century, according to a senior security source.

But the project still has not reached the point of no return and Iran's missile program still could be halted if the United States puts more pressure on Russia to stop Russian companies from selling missile know-how to Teheran, OC Intelligence Maj.-Gen. Amos Malka said.

In his first appearance before the Knesset Foreign Affairs and Defense Committee yesterday, Malka said if the aid was stopped it would set back the Iranian efforts to deploy the Shihab-3 for several years.

"There is still a window of opportunity for the United States and the international community to put pressure on Russia," Malka was quoted as saying according to another official."If the aid is cut off, the project could be stopped, or at least delayed," he added.

Last Tuesday's missile test by Iran was not of a prototype of the 1,300km-range Shihab-3, said a senior security source, but a preliminary examination of the engine in the single-stage rocket.

Israel believes that the Iranian technicians deliberately detonated the rocket and that it was not a malfunction which made it explode before reaching its full range.

According to the security source, Israel knew of the missile test "very close to the time of the launch."

The assessment in Israel is that Iran decided to carry out the test for strategic and political motives rather than technical ones.

The Iranians are spurred on in their efforts by a desire to become a regional power and see the medium-range missiles with non-conventional warheads as a strategic asset to achieve this, the senior security source said.

Shihab-3 is a purely Iranian-built and Iranian-assembled missile based grossly on the design of the North Korean No-Dung missile. It was totally redesigned by Russian experts.

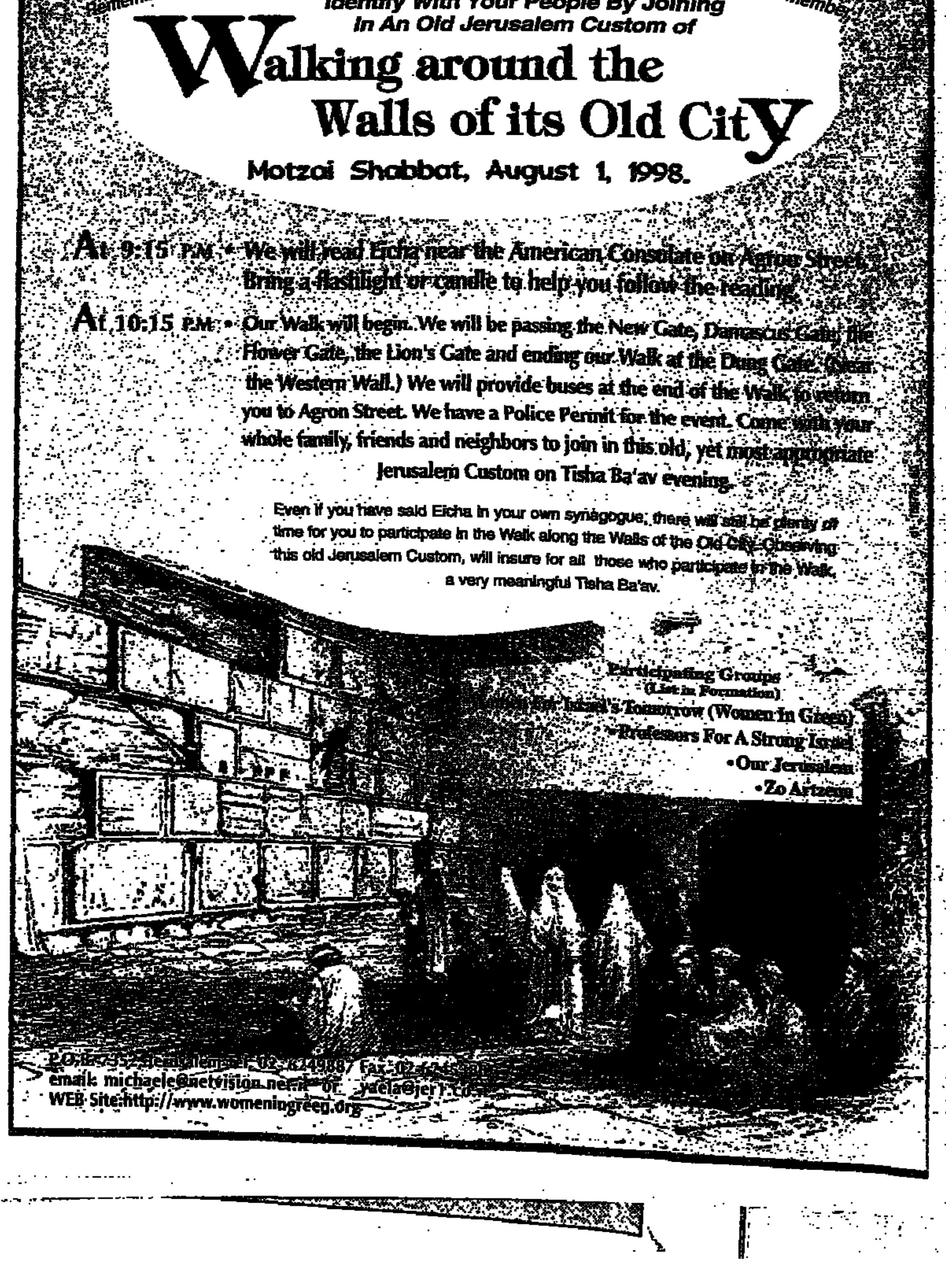
Iran, has said that the missile was intended for defensive purposes.

Intelligence sources here said that the Shihab-3 is to be followed by the Shihab-4 with a range of between 2,000 and 2,500 kilometers – putting southern and central Europe within its striking distance.

The Iranians are setting up production lines for the Shihab-3 and training military units to operate the missiles, the senior security source said.

According to Malka, the continued development of the Shihab-3 poses a significant threat to Israel. It would mark the first time that Iran would be able to strike at Israel directly. The missile launch showed an advanced stage of development, but does not mark the final stage, Malka told the committee.

Malka was quoted as telling the committee that Iran recently stepped up the pace of its program for fear that Russia, under pressure from the United States, would prevent Russian companies from aiding the project.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No cutbacks!

Hundreds of people with mental illnesses, their relatives, and staffers and volunteers from Enosh, the Israel Mental Health Association, demonstrate opposite the Knesset yesterday against Health Ministry cutbacks that will affect them. The signs question why budget cuts are coming at the expense of the weak.

IDF seeking Goldstein family's cooperation in altering grave

By ARIEH O'SULLIVAN

The IDF is in no hurry to demolish the shrine built around Baruch Goldstein's grave, and is expecting the Goldstein family to submit their reservations regarding the changes planned before taking any steps, military sources in the Central Command said yesterday.

The IDF has sent the Goldstein family a letter revealing for the first time exactly what is to be demolished and what is to be saved at the site.

"We aren't standing with a stopwatch in our hand or with any deadline" said the source. "We are not just issuing letters for the purpose of checking off procedure. We want the family to respond so this is worked out mutually."

No. action on the shrine is expected for at least three weeks, the source said.

According to the letter sent by OC Central Command Maj.-Gen. Moshe Ya'alon, the main changes called for will be to separate Goldstein's grave from the rest of the park in Kiryat Arba, and to erase any reference glorifying him.

The letter details the changes to be made at the grave site itself, and this includes removing the flooring, lighting and benches from around the tombstone. Also, the words "holy, just, God will avenge his blood, gave his life for the Torah, his people and his land, murdered in the holy name of God," will all be erased from his tombstone.

The letter was accompanied by an aerial photograph detailing the areas which are to be destroyed.

Jewish extremists have warned that massive protests will be staged if the IDF goes ahead with the plans. Last week, hundreds of leaflets appeared accusing Ya'alon of devoting too much of his time to removing the shrine built around Goldstein's grave, instead of to his security duties.

Ya'alon is acting upon instructions from Defense Minister Yitzhak Mordechai, which say the shrine glorifies a terrorist.

Mordechai issued the instructions in light of the newly passed bill banning memorials to those who committed acts of terror. Goldstein's grave site has become a large paved plaza where people can pray, study and gather.

According to the newly passed law, all extraneous items that would glorify his grave site must be removed.

Goldstein, wearing an IDF officer's uniform, gunned down 29 Moslem worshippers at the Machpela Cave in February 1994. He also died at the scene.

Manbar questioned about roles of Yanai and Chen

By DAN IZENBERG and Itim

Security forces yesterday escorted Nahum Manbar from his cell in Ramle Prison to the border police station in Lod, where he testified in the Strashnov Affair.

Investigators asked Manbar how the defense had established contact with Ziv Chen, the former boyfriend of Pninat Yanai. He also was questioned about whether Chen was encouraged to submit a deposition, which formed the basis of attorney Amnon Zichroni's appeal to the High Court of Justice to disqualify Judge Amnon Strashnov from the case.

Manbar also was asked about the contacts that were apparently made between Strashnov and Yanai, an attorney who worked at different times for Strashnov and Zichroni.

Further steps in the investigation, which is being headed by Lt.-Cmdr. Miri Golan, will be formulated in consultation with attorney Dvorah Chen of the Tel Aviv District Attorney's Office, who was the prosecutor in the Manbar trial. It will be decided whether to call for testimony the other major players such as Zichroni, Shai Bazak, the prime minister's spokesman, and Strashnov.

Meanwhile, the Movement for Quality Government yesterday submitted a petition to the High Court of Justice against the appointment of Dvorah Chen as advisor to the police investigating team.

In the petition, the Movement for Quality Government's attorney, Yoram Samuel, said that "conducting an investigation with Chen's involvement is unreasonable because Chen will have to decide whether she should be questioned by police."

Samuel wrote that because of Chen's participation, the public will be skeptical if the police reach the conclusion that the trial was conducted without blemish.

On Sunday, State Attorney Edna Arbel blasted the Movement for Quality Government for criticizing the decision to appoint Chen, saying that it was part of a trend to undermine the reputation of the State Attorney's Office.

Demonstrators protest security forces' 'use of torture'

By AMY KLEIN

Hands cuffed behind his back and a burlap sack covering his face, a demonstrator from the Public Committee Against Torture in Israel dressed up like a prisoner yesterday as part of a protest in Jerusalem against torture methods demonstrators said were employed by Israel's security forces.

The demonstration was staged near the Jerusalem central police station, where security prisoners are interrogated. This was the second in a series of three demonstrations staged by the PCATI, which will hold another one in the same place next Tuesday.

The seven-year-old organization fights the use of torture as an interrogation method by Israeli security forces. In March they sent a letter of protest to the attorney general on behalf of Avigdor Eskin, the right-wing activist convicted of throwing a pig's head into the Temple Mount in Jerusalem.

Demonstrators carried signs yesterday which read "The legitimization of terror by the High Court of Justice shakes democracy to its core," referring to the fact that the High Court of Justice has not yet ruled regarding interrogation methods used by the GSS.

The case against GSS methods was first brought before the High Court of Justice in January by two Palestinian security prisoners and the PCATI. They protested the GSS's use of physical and psychological torture during interrogation, such as tying prisoners to a low chair, playing loud music, preventing sleep and placing a sack over their heads. The GSS argued that special methods of interrogation are justified in cases where it may elicit information that could prevent terrorist attacks.

In May, the State Attorney's Office refused to grant guaranteed immunity to General Security Service interrogators who use illegal or borderline methods to extract information from detainees, but did not rule on the legality of torture methods.

The methods violate international agreements which Israel has signed, including the Geneva Convention, said PCATI representative Allegra Pacheco.

Pacheco, a civil rights lawyer, said that there are between 30-40 security prisoners in the Jerusalem prison, including her client Seif Adin Hamidat from Tsurif, whom she has not been allowed to see since he was arrested 10 days ago.

"As long as they prohibit him visitors," she said, "they are entitled to – and are probably are – interrogating him using tortuous methods."

US Holocaust council slams Auschwitz crosses

By MARILYN HENRY

NEW YORK – As the conflict over religious symbols at Auschwitz escalated with the installation of dozens of Christian crosses, the head of the US Holocaust Memorial Council condemned the crosses and blamed American and Polish extremists for "fanning the fires."

"Extremists in the US and Poland started fanning the fires just as we were on the verge of concluding an agreement" on the protection and preservation of the death camp, said Miles Lerman, chairman of the US Holocaust Memorial Council and head of an international Jewish consortium that has been negotiating on the status of the camp.

Members of a Catholic workers' group, goaded by a right-wing Catholic radio station, Radio Maryja, erected more than 50 crosses – one of them 3 meters high – over the weekend just outside the walls of Auschwitz.

"We want the entire escarpment to teem with crosses," Kazimierz Switon, a campaigner who had just ended a 42-day protest fast, told the Polish news agency PAP.

Jewish groups have objected to all religious symbols, arguing that they desecrate what is seen as the largest Jewish graveyard in Europe. Some 1 million Jews were murdered at Auschwitz-Birkenau.

Earlier this month, the government of Poland and an international coalition of Jewish institutions had been scheduled to sign a 10-point declaration calling for a master plan for "Project Oswiecimski." That plan is intended to preserve Auschwitz-Birkenau and to develop the surrounding community.

The Jewish institutions, including Yad Vashem and the US Holocaust Memorial Museum, had reached an agreement with Warsaw and the Polish Church on Auschwitz in March 1997, but the formal signing was delayed by a dispute over the presence of religious symbols at the site.

The symbols originally in question, on the "Field of Ashes" at Birkenau, were removed last December. A new dispute then arose over a cross erected to commemorate the site where Pope John Paul prayed for the first victims of Auschwitz, Polish political prisoners shot by the Germans in a gravel pit.

Likud overrides Tsomet in vote on Shabbat fines

By DAN IZENBERG

The coalition leadership flexed its muscles yesterday by forcing Tsomet MK Pini Badash to step aside in favor of faction chairman Meir Sheetrit for a Knesset Law Committee revote on new regulations imposing fines on people running businesses or paying employees to work on Shabbat.

The new regulations are meant to make it easier to punish violators of the law. Until now, the violators had to be put on trial. From now on, inspectors will be able to fine them NIS 5,000 on the spot. The Likud leadership favors the new regulations but Tsomet, which represents the party in the Knesset Law Committee, opposes them.

Last time, Tsomet representative Eliezer Zandberg voted against the regulations. He could not attend yesterday's vote and asked Badash to replace him.

However, Sheetrit showed up and ordered Badash to step aside. Yisrael Ba'aliya's representative, who also voted against the regulations last time, did not show up yesterday. This time, the regulations were approved by a vote of 8 to 6.

The Knesset State Control Committee discussed the role of the Chief Rabbinate yesterday. The committee discussed the Rabbinate's procedures for granting kashrut certificates.

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Police distribute sketch of serial rapist

By NOAH STREIT and Itim

Tel Aviv police yesterday distributed a composite sketch of the suspected serial rapist being sought for three recent rapes.

Information for the sketch, compiled by the investigative team, was based on testimony from the 27-year-old Italian tourist who was raped on Sunday.

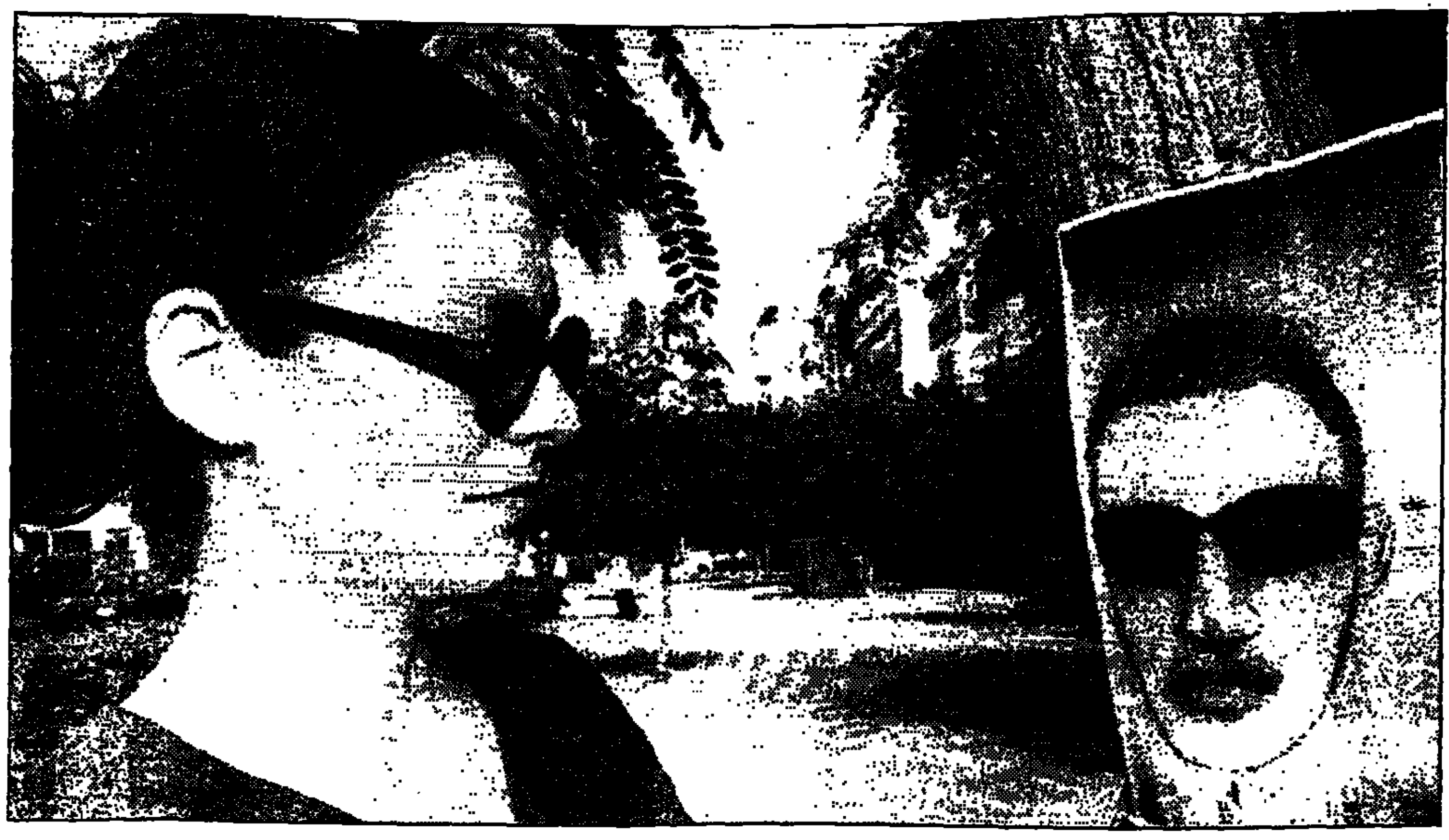
According to the sketch, the suspect is a thin man who is about 25 years old and 1.75m. tall and has short, straight, combed back hair or a ponytail. He also has a wide face and thick lips, the woman said.

Tel Aviv Mayor Ronni Milo announced the city will post the sketches in central locations, coffee houses, information billboards and other public places to help capture the rapist.

A team of 20 investigators has been formed to investigate the three recent rapes in Tel Aviv – of a 21-year-old woman in her apartment on Rehov Sheinkin, a 27-year-old woman from the Philippines in her apartment on Rehov Sokolov, and most recently the Italian woman on the stairs leading up to a friend's apartment on Rehov Hahashmonaim.

The police are still attempting to determining if the three women were raped by the same man. According to Deputy-Commander Avi Ben-Hamo of the Yarkon District, it will take the laboratory two weeks to determine if the DNA found on the three women belongs to the same man.

Meanwhile, a Tel Aviv district police spokeswoman said that the police was unaware of the attempted rape of a young Filipino woman on Monday morning, which was reported in the media.



A volunteer hangs up a copy of the police composite sketch of the suspected serial rapist yesterday in Tel Aviv. (Yael Sonpekb/Israel Sun)

Rape crisis centers: Women shouldn't panic

By HEIDI J. GLEIT

Women should not be afraid to go out at night, despite suspicions that a serial rapist is at large in Tel Aviv, Noga Shiloah, director of the Jerusalem Rape Crisis Center, said yesterday.

"Very few of the women who call here are the victims of complete strangers," she explained, adding that only 14% of the rape victims who turned to the center in 1997 were raped by people they don't know. Only 13% of the victims were raped on the street, while 23% were raped in their own homes, she added.

Cheryl Hechter, spokeswoman for the Tel Aviv Rape Crisis Center, also emphasized this, saying that only about 10% of rape victims nationwide don't know their attacker and that a very small percentage of rapists violently beat their victims, in addition to raping them. In contrast, 30% of the victims are assaulted by a relative, she said.

It is "quite rare" for a woman to be raped by a stranger at 7 p.m., while it is still light out, in a public area, as happened to an Italian tourist on Sunday in the stairwell of a Tel Aviv apartment building, Israel Women's Network spokeswoman Orit Sulitzeanu said yesterday.

The tourist, and two other young women who were raped in the past month, were violently beaten and robbed as well.

"It's a bit of a problem to talk about precautions" to prevent similar rapes, Hechter said. "The most important thing a woman could possibly do to prevent rape is to be in touch with her instincts... if you feel uncomfortable, get out of a situation."

"The most dangerous place is at home or at the homes of relatives and friends," Shiloah said. "I think if you go somewhere alone you have to be careful and take all of the precautions you possibly can to defend yourself... on the other hand, I think it would be wrong for the women in Tel Aviv to lock themselves inside."

"One of the biggest myths is that it's scarier at night than during the day, that it's scarier on the street than in your home," Hechter said.

"It's easier to tell people... 'If you don't hitchhike, don't wear short dresses... it won't happen to you.' But that's wrong!

"Most rape can't be prevented by anything other than proper education," Hechter added. "Access to information about rape is the best precaution."

The center runs seminars and sponsors lectures at schools around the country to teach boys why rape is wrong and to teach girls that they can say no, she said.

Victims of rape and sexual assault can call 1202 to reach the rape crisis center closest to them for counseling and assistance. There are nine rape crisis centers around the country, all of which can refer callers to English-speaking counselors. There also is a special hot line for male victims – (03)-517-9179.

The centers and IWN also have a special program, run with the cooperation of the State Attorney's Office, "to help rape victims not to be raped again in the legal procedure," Sulitzeanu said.

"If a woman is raped and files a complaint with the rape crisis center, it helps a woman through all the procedures... and tries to press so that the case goes forward quickly," she explained.

Women MKs blast Porat for sexist remarks about IBA anchorwoman

By GIL HOFFMAN

Women MKs yesterday sharply criticized Israel Broadcasting Authority Director-General Uri Porat for calling outgoing Channel 1 anchorwoman Geula Even a "a pretty girl who does first-rate work, but I am not sure she can handle the evening news."

Meretz MKs Naomi Chazan and Anat Maor accused Porat of chauvinism for his remark, made on Monday.

Even is being replaced by former anchor Haim Yavin, who is returning to Channel 1 after 10 months at Channel 2.

"Why didn't you speak about Yavin's looks when you commented on the reasons for his return?" Chazan asked Porat.

"If calling her pretty is offensive, then I take it back," Porat replied.

"I am glad he apologized, but I don't take back what I said," Chazan told *The Jerusalem Post* after the meeting.

Maor accused Porat of politicizing the IBA, and alleged that newscasts have had a right-wing slant since Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu appointed him to replace Mordechai Kirschenbaum.

Chazan went further, accusing Porat of being appointed for the purpose of shutting down Channel 1 and causing IBA employees to fear for their jobs.

Porat denounced the accusations as "mudslinging" and added that "my only sin is being born on the wrong side of the political line. Every decision I have made as head of the IBA has been based entirely on professional considerations without regard to politics."

He also denied that Channel 1 would be shut down.

"There will always be complaints against the IBA," Porat said. "Constructive criticism is good. But blind criticism by people like Naomi Chazan, who I've never even met before but who claims to know what I'm thinking, is bad."

Porat denied making statements attributed to him in yesterday's *Yediot Aharonot*, which quoted him as referring to the recently cancelled show *Popolitika* as a "livestock market."

He said *Popolitika* would be replaced in the fall by a show with the same focus but without the "pop."

Asked about the NIS 1.3 million salary figure for Yavin quoted in the Hebrew press, Porat said the amount was offered by Kirschenbaum, and that the MKs should ask him about it.

Haredi soldiers complain food not kosher enough

By ARIEH O'SULLIVAN

Army grub has never been anything to write home about, but a group of haredi soldiers called up for duty have fired off a complaint to the defense minister that their food is not kosher enough.

The haredi soldiers also complained of other restrictions infringing on their religious way of life. The complaint was delivered to Defense Minister Yitzhak Mordechai through Jerusalem's deputy mayor, Haim Miller. The complaints come amid calls by Mordechai to increase the number of yeshiva students in uniform.

Mordechai's reply, which was backed up by IDF Chief Chaplain Maj.-Gen. Gad Navon, was an outright rejection of the claims, stating that the IDF has the highest standards of kashrut in the world.

Even the most strict can eat IDF food without any apprehension or guilt, the reply said.

The complaint, which was reported by Itim, said that the haredi company was unhappy that all of the food served was not kosher lemehadrin, and that the non-mehadrin food was being mixed with mehadrin kosher food.

According to the complaint, some soldiers in the company had refused to eat, and were going home every few days to get a proper meal. "We hereby notify you that we have no faith in the mehadrin kashrut the army is supplying us with, and there is apparently no way they can supply the needs of the haredi sector," the complaint said.

Furthermore, they complained that they have not been allowed to immerse themselves in a *mikve*, that their welfare officer was female and that a woman, instead of a man, lectured them.

Mordechai's reply said that the haredi soldiers should have taken up the matter with the unit rabbi, or the IDF chief chaplain himself.

Knesset bill aims to lure back overseas Israelis

By GIL HOFFMAN

Shas MK Yitzhak Cohen introduced a bill to the Knesset Absorption Committee yesterday that would grant Israelis living abroad who return during a set period of time the same rights as immigrants.

The move would be in honor of Israel's jubilee celebration.

Committee Chairman Naomi Blumenthal praised the bill, saying it would send a message to Israelis abroad that they are wanted back home, especially this year.

But Labor MK Ophir Pines criticized the bill for excluding Arabs and for being too late in the jubilee year.

The bill also faced opposition from Finance Ministry representatives who said it would not be financially responsible and from committee members who said it would reward Israelis who live abroad at the expense of those who have lived their whole lives in Israel.

Blumenthal decided to postpone sending the bill to the Knesset until these issues are worked out.

Policemen attacked after haredi protesters' arrest

By AMY KLEIN

Haredim in Mea She'arim yesterday attacked policemen in response to the arrest of 10 haredi protesters during continued demonstrations at Road Number 1 in Pisgat Ze'ev. They threw stones and garbage bins at policemen, lightly injuring two, one in the head and one in the foot.

Two groups of haredim had demonstrated again at the construction site in northern Jerusalem.

This followed the resumption of work at the site by the Moriah construction company – the municipality's contractor – following a new ruling by the Jerusalem Rabbinical Council. The council had previously decided to rebury the graves found on the site about 60 meters away, but last week decided to rebury them 30 meters below their current location.

Rabbi Menahem Blumenthal, director of the Chief Rabbinate's office in Jerusalem, said the change was technical and unrelated to pressures from more radical haredi factions, who reject the new ruling as well.

Knesset to be refurbished during summer recess

By LIAT COLLINS

The Knesset officially starts two-and-a-half months of recess tonight, although Knesset Speaker Dan Tichon noted that not only are weekly plenum sessions and committee meetings likely, but the last barrage of bills to be heard could result in an all-night session which will last until Thursday.

As customary, Tichon published the end of sitting statistics for the House yesterday, singling out for praise for overall participation and activity Ruby Rivlin (Likud), Nissim Dahan (Shas), Benny Elon (Moledet) and Shevah Weiss (Labor). As in previous sittings, those recording the greatest absences were: Aryeh Deri (Shas), Ehud Olmert (Likud), Shimon Peres (Labor) and Ehud Barak (Labor).

While the MKs are officially on their break, the plenum will be refurbished and fitted with new chairs and lighting, for the first time in more than 30 years.

Knesset Clerk Arye Hahn said the House is considering what to do with the old seats which have historic value, like the seat Yitzhak Rabin, Shimon Peres and Menachem Begin all sat on as opposition leader and the chair currently used by MK Haim Ramon (Labor) which once seated David Ben-Gurion.

The cost of the refurbishment amounts to some NIS 3 million, NIS 1.2m. being spent on the new leather seats.

If the Knesset needs to convene during the recess for special sessions or a vote on the redeployment, MKs will use the auditorium instead.

Tichon described the summer session which is ending as "difficult." He admitted to suffering from personal criticism and a series of unflattering press reports about him and his wife, Ludmilla, after comments he made concerning the High Court.

He also was criticized after raising the idea of installing a towering, revolving candelabrum on the roof of the House to mark the Knesset's 50th birthday. Yesterday he described the idea as "a curiosity."

Security issues also continue to trouble him, he said, particularly after the attack on Capitol Hill in Washington earlier this week, which shows the potential for such attacks can be found everywhere.

Since June 1996, the Knesset has sat 232 times for 1,315 hours – a figure likely to go up as MKs were expected to spend marathon sessions last night and tonight clearing their tables of a backlog of bills. Some 2,340 bills were submitted and 190 laws were passed in this Knesset so far.

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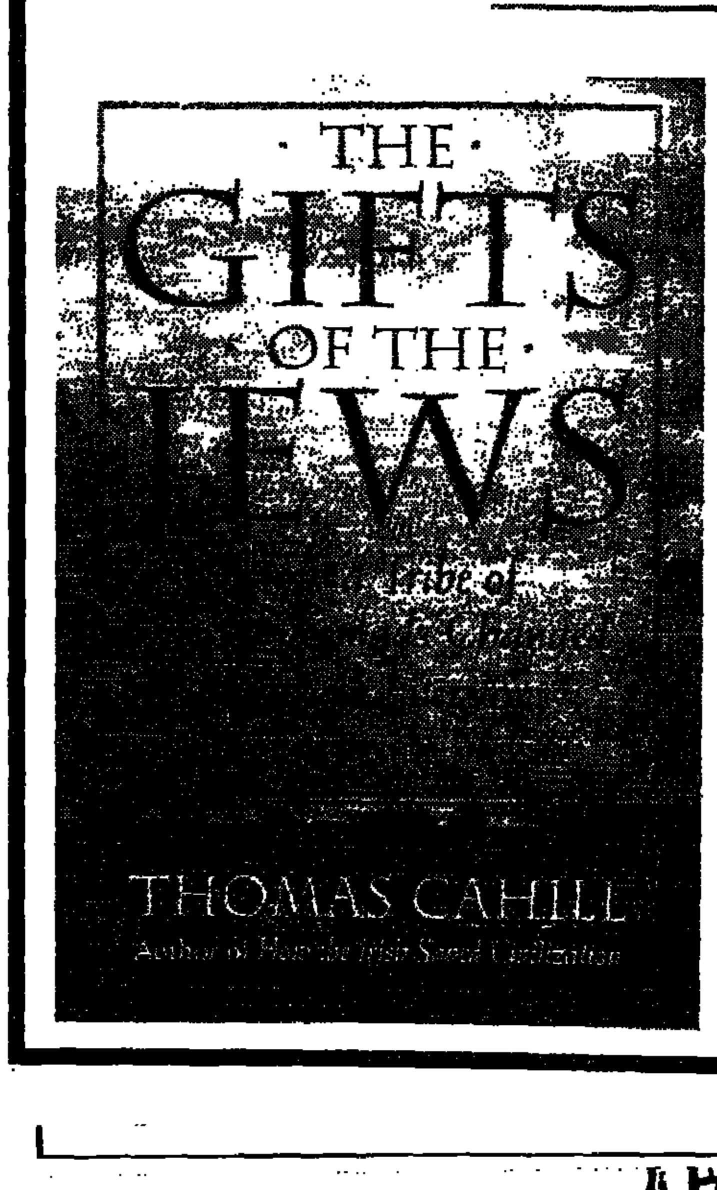

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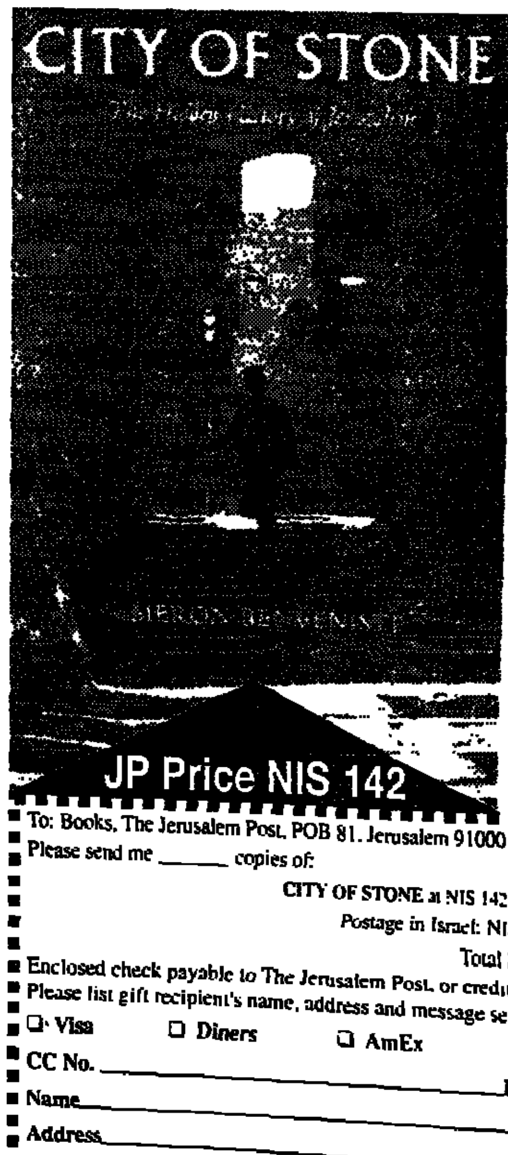

High Court: Statute of limitations was suspended in Deri case

By DAN IZENBERG

The High Court of Justice yesterday ruled that the statute of limitations on the allegations against Shas MK Aryeh Deri for public wrongdoing during his tenure as Interior Ministry director-general and interior minister will not go into effect in August.

The nine-person panel of judges, headed by Supreme Court President Aharon Barak, decided that the statute of limitations countdown was suspended on the day that the attorney-general asked the Knesset to lift Deri's immunity. In thus ruling, the High Court of Justice avoided the necessity of applying judicial review to an intermediary step in a Knesset procedure – in this case, the three-step procedure involved in deciding whether to lift the immunity of a parliamentary peer.

Barak, who wrote the decision, ruled that "when the attorney-general submits a draft of the indictment to the Knesset Speaker in order to lift his immunity, the statute of limitations countdown is suspended for those transgressions included in the draft of the indictment which the attorney-general has submitted to the Speaker."

In 1994, the State Attorney's Office prepared an indictment against Deri on charges of fraud and breach of trust by a public servant for allegedly forcing local authorities to channel government money to haredi institutions in their jurisdiction. At the time, attorney-general Michael Ben-Ya'ir agreed to postpone the indictment until the end of Deri's trial in Jerusalem District Court on charges of personal wrongdoing. But the trial stretched on much longer than expected. Last September, Ben-Ya'ir's successor Elyakim Rubinstein decided to submit the second indictment for fear that the statute of limitations would take effect by August 1998, five years after the last police interrogation in the case.

After four meetings, however, the Knesset House Committee decided, on June 23, to postpone the vote on Rubinstein's request until three months after the end of the summation arguments in Deri's current trial. The committee did so on the assumption that the statute of limitations had indeed been suspended.

Two watchdog organizations, Amitai and the Movement for Quality Government, decided to test the assumption, since there never had been a ruling on the matter.

Barak wrote that it wasn't natural for the High Court of Justice to be the first body to deal with this issue. However, it decided to so, among other reasons, because by doing so, it was precluding the necessity to interfere with an intermediary court decision, something the court is loathe to do.

Barak explained that had the court ruled that the statute of limitations had not been suspended, the House Committee would have voluntarily decided to vote on the request immediately. If it ruled that the countdown was suspended, the petitioners would be satisfied. In the event, the court ruled that the countdown was indeed suspended.

Both sides said they were satisfied with the outcome.

Knesset legal adviser Zvi Inbar, who represented the House Committee, said afterwards that "the High Court accepted our position in full."

Elad Shraga, who represented the Movement for Quality Government, said, "Our petition was accepted in full. What counts for us is that the countdown towards the statute of limitations was halted. We wanted to remove the cloud of doubt hovering over this question."

Inbar said the House Committee will not let the matter drag on. The summation arguments in Deri's trial for private wrongdoing are due to be heard in September. Unless there are further delays, the debate on the lifting of his immunity should resume by December 1998.

NEWS

in brief

Palestinians caught with Skyhawk plane pieces

Four Palestinians were arrested yesterday for breaking into a storage room in Beit Zayit. During a search of their car, Jerusalem police found pieces of the Skyhawk plane that crashed on Monday near Tarkumiya, police said. The Palestinians, residents of Hebron and Tarkumiya, stole aluminum window-sidings from the storage room. They then fled and the room's owner alerted the police, who caught them. One of the men admitted that he had collected the parts after the plane crashed, police said. *Amy Klein*

Woman robs elderly man in capital

A woman knocked down a 70-year-old man and robbed him of NIS 2,000 in Jerusalem yesterday, police said. The man was waiting at a bus stop on Saint Martin Street near the Jerusalem Tennis Center, when the woman threw him down and took his money. He had been to the bank a few minutes before. The woman fled, and the man, suffering from light injuries to his knees, was taken to Shaare Zedek Hospital. *Amy Klein*

Ruling on Sheves ban due next week

The Jerusalem District Court yesterday considered requests to lift a ban on publishing details of the charge sheet against the former director-general of the Prime Minister's Office, Shimon Sheves. Justice Ino Habash is due to give a ruling on the matter next week. The ban was imposed last week after media reports carried details from a draft of the charge sheet. Sheves would like to see the ban lifted so that he can respond to what was publicized. He is suspected of accepting a bribe of NIS 350,000 in an affair involving a foreign country. *Itim*

Postal Authority offers currency exchange

The Postal Authority is throwing bucks around – plastering the floors of its postal branches with enlarged "dollars." The gimmick is meant to remind the public that the postal banks at some of its largest branches now allow the public to buy foreign currency at competitive rates and without paying the stiff fees demanded by commercial banks. The regular banks charge between NIS 20 and NIS 60 to purchase each $1,000. *Judy Siegel*

Jerusalem's unemployed wait to speak to counselors at the Employment Service office in the capital yesterday. (Isaac Harari)

Unemployed wait in line with hope, resignation

By NOAH STREIT and Itim

The people populating the local Jerusalem branch of the Employment Service yesterday were a cross section of Israeli society: young women with children, haredi men, and older individuals. What they had in common sitting on the uncomfortable benches in the waiting room was hope for light at the end of the tunnel, and a job at the end of their interview.

While Tourism Minister Moshe Katsav was warning that the unemployment figures reflected a dangerous socio-economic situation, saying he would trade "a one percent higher inflation rate or budget deficit for a one percent lower unemployment rate," those on line were not particularly hopeful their situation would soon be resolved.

"Here's the problem – if you are old, like I am, then who wants to hire an old woman. If you are young then you probably have children and no one wants to hire you either," said a 50-year-old woman who was recently laid off from her job of 16 years.

A friend of hers, nearing the same age, explained that the Employment Service is a poor place to seek employment.

"Many people come here just to pick up their certificate of unemployment so they can receive their unemployment check and then go to private manpower agencies to find work. Because these agencies are private and they receive money from the potential employer, they often do a better job at placement than the government," she said.

Shlomit Kandror, 25, was sitting with her seven-month-old son on her lap, a resigned look on her face. She was laid off two years ago and has been searching for a job ever since. When she first came to the office they enrolled her in a course, which she completed, but soon after she gave birth to her son. With a four-year-old daughter and a seven-month-old son, Shlomit acknowledged that she is not an employer's dream.

"I've been searching for a job again, for about five months now. The problem is that I have children, one that needs constant care. Even if I leave my children in child-care, most jobs would have me working during the time that I have to pick up my children."

Shlomit is married, and her husband is employed, but they require a second salary to sustain their family.

Deciding to have his fourth son in Israel, a haredi-looking man from Neveh Ya'acov left his post as a kashrut supervisor in Europe and moved here. However "finding work as a kashrut supervisor in Israel is hard. Therefore I am here looking for new work. This is my first time here, but I have heard that many people have trouble finding jobs... I don't think that my problem finding work is related to the current unemployment, I think it would be probably whenever I would have decided to come to Israel."

Committee backs bill to curb release of Palestinian prisoners

By DAN IZENBERG

The Knesset Law Committee yesterday approved for second and third reading a bill stating that Israel will not release any more Palestinian security or criminal prisoners until the Palestinian Authority hands over all the suspected terrorists Israel has asked for in accordance with the Oslo Agreements.

The bill, initiated by Michael Kleiner (Gesher), is entitled "Mutuality in Abiding by Agreements." The government was embarrassed by the legislation since it gives legal status to a policy it has championed since coming to power, while denying it the discretionary power it has thus far enjoyed for implementing it.

Reuven Rivlin (Likud), who voted for the bill, said that "we coalition members are in a very embarrassing situation. On the one hand, the Ministerial Law Committee, headed by Justice Minister Tzahi Hanegbi, supported the bill. On the other hand, Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu opposes it."

"This bill is really a political declaration and the question is whether it should be included in the country's constitutional make-up, since it shackles the government and the prime minister," he added.

In order to provide the government with some room to maneuver, committee chairman Hanan Porat added another clause stating that in "special circumstances," the government could release terrorists.

He said that the release of captured IAF navigator Ron Arad or Israeli hostages could be considered special circumstances.

Swiss gov't asks US state not to impose sanctions

By MARILYN HENRY and news agencies

With a settlement of Holocaust claims elusive, the Swiss government has asked public finance officials in all 50 states and in 15 major US cities not to impose sanctions on Swiss firms, the government's task force on World War II said yesterday in Bern.

"For us and our country, justice is a continuing process that cannot be reduced to simple dollar amounts," the Swiss government said in a letter to American officials, including all 50 governors. "It is our hope that you will join with us in calling for an end to counterproductive rhetoric and misguided sanctions that will only serve to delay a just and lasting conclusion, in the interests of the survivors of the Holocaust," said the letter, dated Friday. It was signed by the Swiss ambassador to the United States, Alfred Defago, and Thomas Borer, the diplomat heading the task force.

For six months, Undersecretary of State Stuart Eizenstat has argued against sanctions. Trying to retain a grip on US foreign policy, Eizenstat has clashed with New York City and state finance officials who earlier this month announced that they will refrain from doing business with Swiss commercial banks if there is no settlement by September 1 of claims against the banks. Survivors and Jewish organizations charge that they hoarded Jewish assets deposited during the Holocaust era.

Lawyers for the banks and victims met on Monday for five hours with Edward Korman, the US federal judge hearing the class-action lawsuits against the Swiss banks. The two sides appear far apart on a settlement, according to news agency reports.

The two major Swiss banks, Union Bank and Credit Suisse, on June 19 offered $600 million to settle the claims. That was dismissed by survivors' lawyers and Jewish organizations as "insulting." They were reportedly seeking $1.5 billion, although Edgar Bronfman, head of the World Jewish Congress, told the *Forward* newspaper last month that he wanted $3 billion to settle claims.

The Swiss government is not a direct party to the talks, although Eizenstat has said it must become involved.

Last week, at a Senate Banking Committee hearing, the WJC said it had been duped by the US government, which, according to the WJC, promised in June that the Swiss banks would make a good-faith settlement offer. In exchange for the offer, the WJC was expected to remain silent on what was then the pending merger of Union Bank of Switzerland and the Swiss Bank Corporation.

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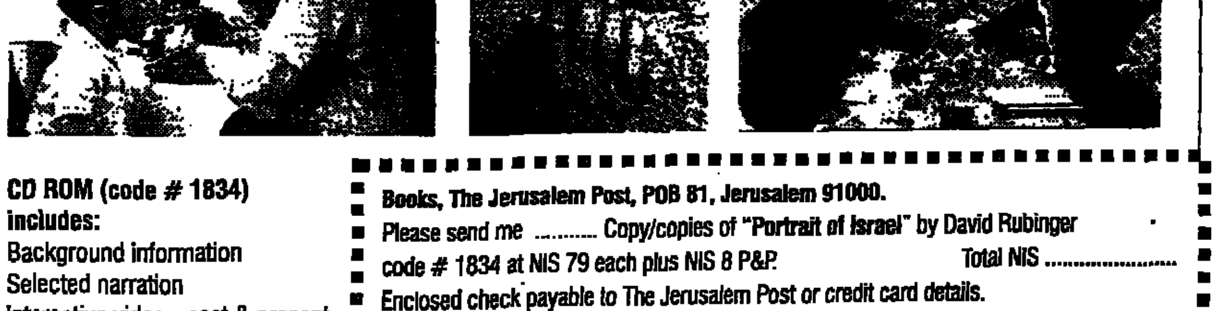

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Hold the pendulum

Column One

Thomas O'Dwyer

The late British prime minister Harold Wilson coined a popular catchphrase to identify foreign speculators undermining the pound during his term in office: They were the Gnomes of Zurich.

His supporters adopted it with glee, the ideal *personification of* gray, humorless, sinister bankers. And, of course, Swiss. The conservative, well-heeled smugness with which Switzerland has sniffed off the jibes of envious foreigners merely fueled more jibes about gnomes and cuckoo clocks and chocolate. The gray suits that lurked in Masonic secrecy behind discreet brass plaques seemed as thick-skinned as rhino hide.

The Swiss were too good for the rest of the world – refusing to join the United Nations and scorning the European Union. They had done very nicely, thank you, out of World War II, while retaining an air of self-righteous superiority, using their historic neutrality as a mirror to deflect 100 percent of all criticism.

Now it's all over, the facade has cracked, the rhino hides are breached. "Tis pride that pulls the country down," said Othello, and "pride that licks the dust," said *Alexander Pope, though he probably didn't mean gold dust.*

Hold the stone

However, while everyone loves to see the office Mr. Smartass-Smug get his comeuppance, the time comes when someone has to say "enough," before the pendulum swings too far and Mr. S-S is found swinging like a pendulum from a beam in his lonely bachelor pad. Now that everyone has had their fun and hurled their insults at Switzerland, it is time for a time-out. Hold that pendulum.

In the Christian gospel, a tale is told of a mob howling for a woman caught in adultery to be stoned. "Fine," said Jesus, "let whoever is without guilt throw the first stone."

A lot of the *stone-throwing* against Switzerland for its wartime sins has been coming from the high moral ground of the United States – an upright upland where profiteering from *war or other nations'* woes is, of course, unheard of. (Don't mention Central America.)

The reams of negative material on Switzerland emanating from American presses make one wonder – did the Swiss ever do anything right, anything good in their entire history?

The sins of the Swiss, particularly the bankers, are being well documented and reported. The banks' failure to pay fast and adequate compensation to the surviving victims of Nazism seems like a despicable delaying tactic.

But some other facts are being conveniently overlooked, facts which appeared in the second Eizenstat report on US and Allied relations with neutral states during and after the war. (Issued last month, it was compiled under the leadership of US Undersecretary of Commerce Stuart Eizenstat.)

How many?

There is a balloon of hypocrisy in the attacks on Switzerland *which needs to be pricked* from time to time – smugness is not unique to the Swiss. Perhaps American commentators should remind themselves again that the US interned its own ethnic-Japanese citizens in an act of blatant racism and that it accepted only 21,000 refugees from Europe during World War II. Switzerland has described as inexcusable its wartime government's turning back of 30,000 refugees because "the boat was full." But 300,000 refugees, including 30,000 Jews, did make it into the boat. "Carl Lutz, the Swiss vice consul in Budapest provided letters of protection that saved the lives of 62,000 Jews," the Eizenstat report says.

A perception peddled by some of the Nazi-gold reporting is that Switzerland was neutral but pro-Nazi. Alone among the neutrals, Switzerland was totally surrounded by the Axis. It was not *collusion but its high state of military readiness to defend the* Alpine state that dissuaded the Germans from a costly invasion.

Secondly, says Eizenstat, "the Swiss people were overwhelmingly sympathetic to the Allies, even against the backdrop of strict neutrality."

Like clockwork

Switzerland made a crucial strategic contribution to the Allies by allowing the OSS (embryo CIA) to use Bern as its main listening post on the European mainland. Throughout the war it was the main protecting power for Allied prisoners of war.

There is another perception that Switzerland is doing nothing to clear up the murk of the past. *First, there is the multinational* Bergier Commission tasked with detailing every aspect of Swiss relations with Nazi Germany. (Prof. Saul Friedlander of Tel Aviv University is a member.) *The Volcker Committee is* charged with tracking all outstanding dormant assets in Swiss banks and industry and making restitution.

The Swiss Fund for Needy Holocaust Victims is making payments from an endowment of 275 million Swiss francs.

And finally, there is the Swiss Foundation for Solidarity which was set up to guard the gate to the future. Its task is to combat injustice, poverty and violence at home and abroad. None of these are inactive committees, all are working flat out and producing detailed interim reports. Swiss efficiency and organization may have a dull or funny side, but sometimes it also works like clockwork, so let's hear a little credit for that too.

Truth and consequences

As South Africa's high-profile probes into the dark days of apartheid draw to a close, both sides paradoxically share a sense of agony and abuse

By JEREMY LOVELL

CAPE TOWN – Archbishop Desmond Tutu's investigation into the dark truths of South African apartheid winds up this week with victims relieved that *their stories* have at last been heard and many whites hurt by the guilt they are asked to shoulder.

The agonies of those who have heard for the first time the cruel details of how *their loved ones* died have been matched by the anguish of former rulers who feel they and their race have been defamed by a biased panel created to crucify them.

Opinion is deeply divided over whether the statutory Truth and Reconciliation Commission (TRC) has reconciled or further divided a nation torn by decades of white domination.

"The Truth Commission has ended up with a more polarized country. I and my people feel totally alienated from the new South Africa," former apartheid defense chief Constand Viljoen, leader of the Afrikaner Freedom Front, told Reuters.

"Reconciliation. That is where the Truth Commission has failed," according to Marthinus van Schalkwijk, leader of the National Party, which imposed apartheid for 45 years.

"The people of South Africa are now further apart than when the Truth Commission started," he said.

Tutu, the 1994 Nobel Peace prize winner who has been the TRC's chairman and moral conscience, firmly disagrees.

"I am thrilled in many ways at what has taken place. We were asked to try and find the truth – and we have discovered a fair degree of that – and to promote reconciliation," he said.

"The commission can make a contribution, and perhaps a significant contribution to reconciliation. But it is going to be the work of every single South African."

MOST of the evidence from the 2,500 people chosen from among 21,000 victims of gross human-rights violations pointed to atrocities committed by or on behalf of whites.

The TRC is empowered only to investigate and not to prosecute. It *can grant immunity from prosecution* for politically motivated offenses and can offer limited compensation to victims.

Veteran African National Congress (ANC) activist and *present Transportation minister Mac* Maharaj, once known as the most tortured political prisoner, believes the process will lead to healing.

"I am of the strong view that reconciliation needs to be understood as a process that will take a fair amount of time, particularly in a society such as South Africa," he said.

"What is crucial to that process is that victim and perpetrator need to reach out to each other in the context of reconciliation."

Tony Leon, head of the Democratic Party, which is rapidly developing into the main opposition party to the ANC, takes a cautiously middle view.

"Everyone's prejudices have been exposed. The majority of blacks are appalled and the majority of whites just want to close the book as quickly as possible," he said.

"But it's been eye-opening for those people in whose names these things were done and who generally didn't know what was happening," he added.

Public hearings into the activities of President Nelson Mandela's former wife Winnie Madikizela-Mandela, admissions by a former government minister that the security services bombed church buildings and cinemas, and revelations of a dirty tricks poisons program have by turns shocked and revolted people.

THE main criticism of the TRC is that it has been heavily slanted against the former apartheid regime and its supporters, while turning a blind eye to the murder and torture of ANC dissidents in the liberation movement's terror bases,

"In the initial stages there was a good relationship, but the whole process as it developed was so biased against my people that I was unable to go ahead," Viljoen said.

"It has shown bias towards the former liberation forces and has been detrimental to former state officials. Of the 17 commissioners, 15 are pro ANC," he added.

Leon said final judgments should be based on the final report, which will be handed to Mandela in October, adding: "One of the most significant elements is how the actions of the current government are going to be dealt with in the report, because those are the people who are currently governing."

Once more Tutu leaps to the defense of his commission.

"Even before we started, people said it was going to be a witch hunt against the former government, Afrikaners, and biased in favor of the ANC. All the evidence is in the opposite direction," he said.

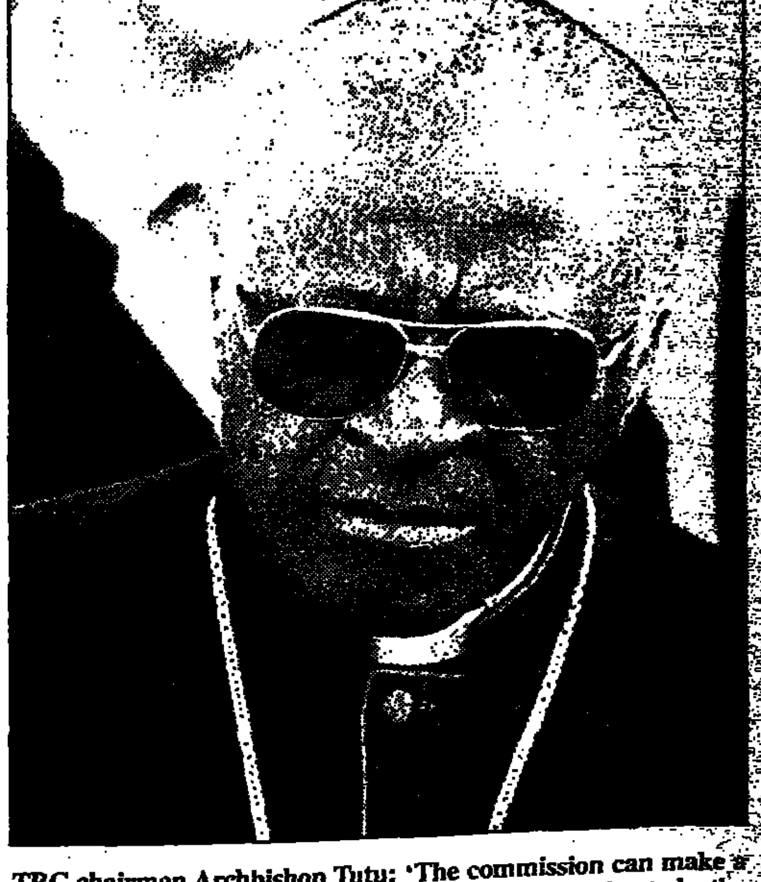
"For nobody have we had a nine-day public hearing other than for Mrs. Winnie Madikizela-Mandela. If we had done that for one Afrikaner there would have been hell to pay," he said.

He told Reuters in an interview that he had threatened to resign when the ANC said initially it was not going to apply for amnesty, a decision later reversed.

He also noted that the commission had tried its best to be as diplomatic as possible in its dealings with former president P. W. Botha, who is currently on trial for refusing to give evidence on the activities of his government.

"Everybody will say we bent over backwards to try to accommodate P. W. Botha. Many will say we were soft in our handling of him," he said with a resigned shrug.

The Truth Commission will be suspended on July 31 and reconvene briefly in September to adopt a final report.



TRC chairman Archbishop Tutu: 'The commission can make a significant contribution to reconciliation. But it is going to be the work of every single South African.' (Rachamim Israeli)

A small team will spend the following two months editing the draft final report. Once approved, it will be printed and handed formally to Mandela at the end of October.

An autonomous Amnesty Committee, set up under the same act of parliament, will continue to sift through the 7,060 applications for clemency it has received in a process that is likely to last until next June.

For Tutu, a tireless campaigner against apartheid, the process has been exhausting and emotional.

"A low point has been the fact that we have not been able to deliver anything to victims," he said.

"Another low point has been the attitude largely of the white community and of some members of the former government. They have been mean-spirited in the face of extraordinary magnanimity on the other side," he added.

But the process has had its highs as well, one of which was the handshake between former air force officer Neville Clarence, blinded in 1983 by a bomb placed in a Pretoria street, and the former ANC guerrilla who planted the device.

"That seemed to be a kind of defining moment about reconciliation," Tutu said. (Reuters)

Slovenia enjoys capitalism, at a price

By NOVICA MIHAJLOVIC

LJUBLJANA – Since gaining independence from former Yugoslavia in 1991, Slovenia has become one of central Europe's most prosperous states, shrugging off its old Communist ways and nurturing a market economy.

The small Alpine country, which is roughly the size of Canada's Lake Ontario, boasts a handsome set of macroeconomic figures and is negotiating membership with the European Union.

But prosperity and political freedom have a downside – corruption, which has reared its ugly head in all echelons of society.

"Corruption is becoming a growing problem for Slovenia," says Barbara Brezigar, head of the state's prosecuting team in charge of special tasks. "There is a suspicion that it takes place at all levels of public life."

Corruption has long existed in Slovenia but the transition from a socialist to a market-led economy has provided fertile ground in which it can thrive, Brezigar said.

"Corruption is a global problem, it doesn't just go on in transition countries. But transition offers more space for its growth – the more money there is, the more opportunities for bribery there are."

Violent crime remains rare in Slovenia and city streets are generally safe.

Brezigar's team was set up two years ago to tackle corruption as well as drugs smuggling, weapons trafficking and copyright violation – all of which have grown with the country's prosperity.

Brezigar's "special forces" team comprises crack police, criminologists and six prosecutors, including herself.

Much of their work is concentrated on local and state administration, especially in cases of public tenders for construction projects involving large sums of money.

The team is already examining cases of alleged corruption involving people from "the highest political positions," Brezigar says. She refuses to name names as investigations are at an early stage.

Brezigar says her team's job has been made harder by political interference. "People in high political posts are often well linked to those with a lot of money, so this might be a source for a lack of political will to speed up solving corruption cases," she said.

The European Union's judicial *mission in February called on* Slovenian courts to speed up their handling of cases.

Latest government figures show that a total of some 500,000 cases are still waiting to be dealt with. Even when a case reaches court, it can still drag on for several years.

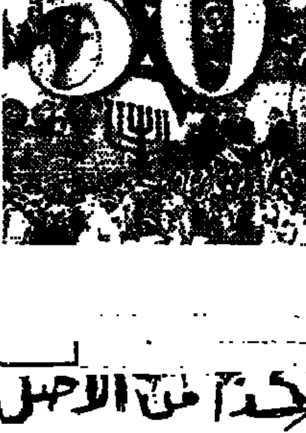
Brezigar says prosecutors should be able to give priority to corruption cases in which the largest sums of money are likely to be involved. "Cases in which people with money and power are involved should have an absolute priority in our over-burdened courts," she said. "But powerful culprits easily delay procedures and defend themselves."

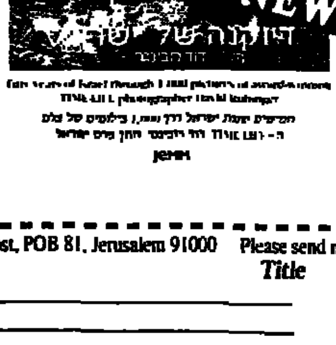
Other official sources cite alleged corruption within the police force as an added complication.

One senior police officer, who did not want to be named, said some officers and state prosecutors were afraid to denounce corruption because of possible revenge attacks. In fact, Brezigar's team has never been threatened and does not receive special protection.

"We all know of some bribery cases among our officers," the police officer said. "But no policeman wants to testify against his colleagues."

Loyalty also made police reluctant to expose "crooked" colleagues, the officer said, citing an old Slovenian saying: "One crow never pecks out another crow's eyes." (Reuters)





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صورة من الاصل

West warns Myanmar over Suu Kyi standoff

Opposition leader spends 5th day in car as troops block her from visiting supporters

By RAJAN MOSES

BANGKOK (Reuters) – Leading nations yesterday warned Myanmar not to escalate a standoff with opposition leader Aung San Suu Kyi and offered to help defuse political tensions in the country, US officials said.

Separately, diplomats said the United States, the European Union, plus Japan, New Zealand, Canada, South Korea and Australia, confronted Myanmar's foreign minister during an informal meeting on the fringes of an Asian security conference.

Myanmar opposition leader Aung San Suu Kyi spent a fifth day in her car on yesterday in a standoff against the military's refusal to let her visit party supporters in a town outside the capital Yangon.

"She's still there. They asked for drinking water and we provided that. But they have enough food and a week's supply of chocolates, bread and other food with them," a government spokesman said by telephone from Yangon.

National League for Democracy (NLD) party leader Suu Kyi, a senior party member U Hla Pe and two drivers were blocked by security men at bridge near Anyarsu Village about 64 km from Yangon on Friday morning. They were heading for Pathein township, in Ayeryarwaddy division, to meet party supporters.

Negotiators from the ruling State Peace and Development Council (SPDC) had asked Suu Kyi to return to Yangon but she had refused.

NLD officials were unavailable for comment on the protest.

US Secretary of State Madeleine Albright said on Monday she was "gravely concerned" about the health and safety of Suu Kyi and would hold Myanmar's military government responsible for her welfare.

Albright, in Manila for a regional diplomatic meeting, also said there was an increasing possibility of a political "explosion" in Myanmar that could undermine regional stability.

The military leadership hit back at Albright and said the United States' "accusations, allegations and condemnations thrown against Myanmar is a typical way of a sole superpower carrying out a witch hunt".

Aung San Suu Kyi (AP)

The Myanmar government said Suu Kyi was stopped because she did not have her personal security team with her and it was concerned she might be harmed by anti-government elements, leaving the government open to blame.

It also accused her of trying to foment dissent ahead of the planned reopening next month of universities and other institutions, which were closed in December 1996 after student unrest.

But a defiant Suu Kyi, who has been sitting in the car for most of the time with few short breaks to stretch her legs, has refused to budge from where her white sedan was stopped and refused to talk to government negotiators.

An ambulance was on standby in the area where she is staging her protest and Myanmar Red Cross officials were at hand to provide humanitarian assistance to her, the spokesman said.

"Yesterday, the NLD central executive committee requested that they would like a doctor to be sent to see her. This was approved and he's already at the site," he added.

"She's not staging a hunger strike but we have reserved food supplies and water which we shall give them if they require it," the spokesman said. "We are worried about her security. She's a sitting target in the open like this." Asked if the government was prepared to endure a prolonged Suu Kyi car protest and when the standoff might be resolved, he said: "We won't impose physical force to get her to return to Yangon. We hope that she comes to her senses and realizes that this is a futile way of politicking."

"She's refusing to communicate and deliberately staying on," he added. "This is a publicity stunt and they will try to get as much publicity as they can," he added.

"But there are limits just as anywhere in the world over how much trouble a person can stir up before the authorities may need to enforce laws to ensure peace and stability," he said.

"We have our security people near the car, she cannot go forward, but yes, she can always go back... to Yangon," he said.

The Alternative ASEAN Network, a critic of the ruling junta, said it was ridiculous the entire Myanmar government was imposing its will on one car and refusing to allow it to continue its journey.

Utah governor in row over polygamy

By MIKE CARTER

SALT LAKE CITY (AP) – Facing criticism for suggesting polygamy may fall under religious freedoms, Gov. Mike Leavitt turned to Utah's attorney general for advice on why Utah fails to prosecute polygamists when the practice is widespread.

Last week, Leavitt said human or civil rights violations committed by polygamists should be aggressively prosecuted. But he implied the practice itself, with its roots in early Mormon doctrine, might be protected under the First Amendment of the US Constitution.

There are believed to be tens of thousands of practicing polygamists in Utah.

On Monday, self-described victims of polygamy condemned the governor for his comments. They claimed he is insensitive to the physical, spiritual and emotional abuses suffered by women and children in polygamous groups.

Worse, they said, Leavitt's remarks amount to tacit approval of the long-outlawed practice.

"Until Gov. Leavitt takes the laws of polygamy seriously, our hands are tied and we will continue to be a voice unheard," said Vicky Prunty, director of the Tapestry of Polygamy, a self-help group for former polygamist wives and children.

The Mormon Church banned polygamy in 1890, and an anti-polygamy clause was written into the Utah Constitution as a condition for statehood. Many practicing polygamists, however, believe the church was wrong to forsake what had been a cherished doctrine.

Prunty's group held a news conference outside Leavitt's office Monday and presented his deputy chief of staff, Vicki Varela, with a letter urging him to enforce the constitution he swore to uphold.

Leavitt declined to respond in person. However, Varela drew a distinction between prosecuting the act of polygamy itself and prosecuting crimes that may occur within plural marriages – just as her boss was trying to do last week, she said.

"Polygamy is against the law in Utah," Varela said. "We do not know why prosecutors do not choose to prosecute it." Leavitt was dragged into the controversy over polygamy when he was questioned by reporters about the case of John Daniel Kingston, a prominent member of a large polygamist group who is being prosecuted for child abuse.

Kingston pleaded innocent Monday to allegations that he whipped his 16-year-old daughter with a belt for rebelling against an arranged marriage to his brother.

There has not been a prosecution against anyone solely for practicing polygamy in Utah since 1952, when federal and state agents raided the border community of Short Creek – now Hildale, Utah, and Colorado City, Arizona. The raid turned into a public relations debacle as children were pulled from their parents' arms and husbands were jailed.

Varela said Leavitt instructed his office's attorney, Gary Doxey, to get a "policy statement" on polygamy prosecutions from Utah Attorney General Jan Graham. Graham's chief deputy, Reed Richards, said the policy is simple: "Crimes are prosecuted when we know about them."

"The vast majority of these relationships are between consenting adults," he said.

East Timor respite

East Timor residents crowd the gates of the port as they watch Indonesian soldiers board a ship in Dili, about 2,000 kms north-east of Jakarta yesterday. Four hundred Indonesian soldiers left the former Portuguese colony in the first wave of a troop pull out as a goodwill gesture towards a peaceful solution for the troubled territory, which is struggling for its independence. East Timor was invaded by Indonesia in 1975 and annexed a year later, a move not recognized by the United Nations. (AP)

Ex-PM Miyazawa to head Japan's Treasury

By ELAINE LIES

TOKYO (Reuters) – Kiichi Miyazawa, tapped to be Japanese finance minister, is a veteran political survivor who has overcome scandals to have the dubious honor of being asked to lead Japan out of its worst economic situation in years.

"The finance minister is the most important and the toughest post in the cabinet, so I would like to request Mr. Miyazawa to take it," prime minister designate Keizo Obuchi told reporters yesterday.

Miyazawa, who is on holiday outside of Tokyo now, is expected to return to the capital today to formally reply.

Widely respected for his intellectual abilities and experience with financial matters, Miyazawa went down in flames during his previous tenure as finance minister when he was linked to the Recruit shares-for-favor scandal in 1988.

Although he surmounted this to become prime minister a scant three years later – a colleague said he had been "washed clean in the waters of democracy" – in 1993 he was forced to resign this post as well after the LDP suffered staggering losses in a general election.

For many, his most enduring image is as the man who cradled the head of then-president George Bush when he collapsed with flu at a 1992 state banquet in Tokyo.

Despite his much-vaunted economic ability, Miyazawa as prime minister was unable to stem the start of the downturn in the once mighty Japanese economy which has led to the nation's present perilous state.

He also presided over a ballooning trade surplus which caused major friction with the United States and Europe.

His age – he will be 79 in October – has been mentioned as one factor against his assuming the post. And should he in fact become finance minister, he will be the oldest holder of the job since the end of World War Two.

Born in 1919 in Tokyo to a family hailing from Hiroshima Prefecture in western Japan, he graduated from the prestigious Tokyo University with a degree in law. He joined the Finance Ministry, where his intellectual ability spared him combat service during World War Two.

A member of the more-powerful Lower House of parliament since 1953, he became head of the Economic Planning Agency at the unusually young age of 42, then served in a wide range of key posts before becoming finance minister in 1986.

His efforts to stabilize world currency markets earned him international respect, and he was a champion of expanded coordination between leading Western economies.

But in 1988 he was one of many politicians tainted by the Recruit stocks scandal. Miyazawa swore his secretary bought shares in his name without his knowledge and later sold them at a profit of 20 million yen ($140,000), but he was forced to resign.

Kosovo rebels hit back at Serb forces

By DOUGLAS HAMILTON

PRISTINA, Serbia (Reuters) – Ethnic Albanian rebel guerrillas have struck back at Serbian forces who had recaptured a vital highway in the disputed province of Kosovo, state media reported yesterday.

Yugoslav federal troops and Serbian security police had dealt a stinging blow to the Kosovo Liberation Army (KLA) when they reclaimed a large area of central Kosovo along the major east-west road after four days of heavy fighting.

But not long after security forces escorted reporters along the road on Monday to prove it was open, KLA guerrillas reappeared and assaulted Serbian units in the central village of Kijevo, the official news agency Tanjug reported.

"Strong groups of Albanian terrorists attacked police positions in Kijevo around 10.30 p.m. last night, using automatic weapons, machine guns and mortars," it said.

"Police forces responded to the attack, and according to the local authorities...there were no casualties amongst police or local defenders." It did not say what the result of the battle was or give other detail.

But the highway was closed once again yesterday morning, suggesting that the area was not secure with guerrillas still at large in the hilly rural area.

Kijevo, a Serb enclave midway along the highway that leads west from Pristina to Pec, had been sealed off by the KLA for over two months.

A news team that tried to reach Kijevo from the provincial capital Pristina, about 40 km away, was turned back at a Serbian police barricade a few km outside Pristina.

The KLA is fighting for the independence of Kosovo, an Albanian-majority province of Serbia, and had taken effective control of around half the region before Yugoslav federal and Serbian police forces went on the counter-offensive on Friday.

Observed without notable protest from Western states keen to bring the Kosovo Albanians to the negotiating table, the Serbian offensive was aimed in part at recouping key roads cut by the KLA, which held wide areas of the center and west of Kosovo.

The setback for the KLA was clear. But diplomatic sources said the insurgent force should by no means be counted out, since they could revert to classic guerrilla warfare.

Around 150,000 people have been displaced in five months of conflict, according to UN refugee agency estimates.

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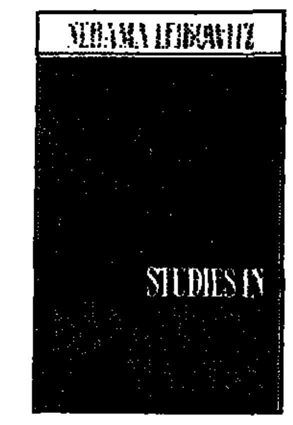

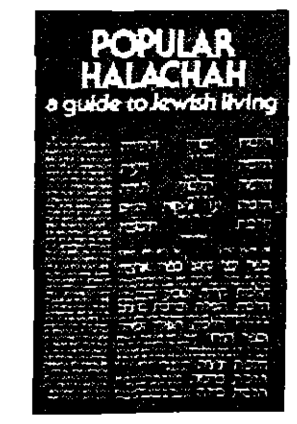

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White House counsel's silence irks Clinton's aides

By RUTH MARCUS

WASHINGTON – Independent counsel Kenneth Starr's subpoena of President Clinton dominated the news all weekend.

But at the White House senior staff meeting Monday morning, not a word was raised about how the radioactive matter should be handled. And when the chance came for him to report on the legal response, White House counsel Charles F. C. Ruff maintained his usual silence.

That the Clinton White House could be so consumed by a matter about which its top aides have so little operating knowledge underscores the uniquely powerful role played by Ruff, the fifth and longest-serving of Clinton's White House counsels.

As the first White House since the Nixon days learns to live under the cloud of potential impeachment, Ruff – who served as Watergate special prosecutor two decades ago – has become one of the few White House advisers in possession of information about the Monica Lewinsky matter that could be critical to the Clinton presidency.

"What used to be one of the most obscure staff jobs now has become a name that earns major Rush Limbaugh attention," said Vice President Al Gore's chief of staff Ron Klain.

Ruff – who prosecuted illegal contributions to President Richard Nixon during Watergate – took office in February 1997 in the midst of the firestorm over Clinton's 1996 campaign fund-raising. His background as a white-collar criminal defense lawyer with long experience helping Democratic politicians to extricate themselves from messy situations has proved particularly relevant since Lewinsky became a household word.

But his tight-lipped stance has frustrated and angered many White House political aides who say the caution of the criminal defense lawyer is not the optimum strategy for maintaining the president's public standing.

While Ruff's calm and self-effacing manner has helped mitigate the personal rancor, one senior aide described "a palpable frustration, almost bordering on bitterness," over his lawyerly approach.

"Chuck has a level of control over this that is unprecedented," one senior official said.

RUFF has been in the forefront of critical decisions by the White House to make broad assertions of executive privilege and attorney-client privilege to head off testimony in the Lewinsky probe – arguments in which the White House Monday again found itself on the losing end as a federal appeals court here rejected its contention that Clinton's conversations with White House lawyers were shielded by attorney-client privilege.

During the twice-daily conference calls among the president's lawyers, Ruff, along with Bruce Lindsey, Lanny Breuer and Cheryl Mills of the counsel's office, is on the line with Clinton's outside lawyers – David Kendall, Robert Bennett and Mickey Kantor.

Ruff is forthright about his attitude toward disclosure outside the small circle of lawyers with a similar need to know.

"The less rather than more approach," he called it a formulation that, by accident or design, is the mirror image of the "more rather than less" openness promised by President Clinton when the Lewinsky allegations first surfaced.

Following that principle, Ruff for weeks would not confirm to fellow aides that the president, whom he unfailingly refers to as "my client," had asserted executive privilege to block Starr's prosecutors.

Last week, he refused to tell White House colleagues whether the president had been subpoenaed by Starr, infuriating some political advisers inside and outside the administration.

"It was such an unnecessary inflation of the story ... a self-inflicted wound," said one adviser.

Said another, "Instead of appearing to be cooperative ... instead of making the most of this, it seems to me they have frittered away much of what they could have gotten out of this in terms of public relations and having you people interpret this as a big move on the part of the president."

Summing up months of disagreements, political adviser Rahm Emanuel said of Ruff: "He doesn't do strategy. He doesn't do politics. We did have the struggle. It's resolved. It's not like he said, 'Shut up and get out of the room.' He just said 'No.' "

White House counselor Paul Begala said he became so exasperated once that he announced, "If a secret was a needle and it was stuck in Chuck, you couldn't pull it out with a John Deere tractor."

Ruff, he said, just smiled.

WHITE House press secretary Michael McCurry, who has frequently locked horns with Ruff over questions of disclosure, said he understood the difficult position in which the lawyer found himself.

"It would be easy to write a slam job on this guy," he said. "It's easy to find plenty of people around here who are chafing and saying he's Queeg-like and doesn't share information, but I think I understand why."

In a recent 1½ hour interview in his West Wing office, Ruff acknowledged the tension and described it as an unfortunate fact of life under the specter of an independent counsel.

"It drives them crazy, and sometimes it drives me crazy to have my colleagues who have other goals in life say 'come on,' " Ruff said, sitting in the same office he first visited as a young Justice Department lawyer meeting with Nixon's White House counsel, John Dean.

Although he sometimes pauses to appreciate the irony of landing in Dean's old job, Ruff dismissed comparisons to Watergate as off-base.

"We were talking in 1973 and 1974 about people plotting about breaking into buildings and obstructing justice and paying people off," he said. "And to even talk about these two things in the same sentence to me is so extraordinary."

Kendall, the president's private lawyer and Ruff's soul mate on questions of disclosure, praised Ruff's "coolness under fire."

Ruff, he said, is "tough-minded ... in terms of being willing to understand that there are some times when you had just better wait and get it right because otherwise you'll get hammered on charges of dissembling."

On joining the White House, Ruff consolidated power over the legal team handling "damage control" on matters such as fund-raising and Whitewater and had it report directly to him.

Former White House special counsel Lanny Davis, who clashed with Ruff over media strategy during the fund-raising inquiry, said that in retrospect Ruff was correct in his more restrained approach.

"I believed we were for the most part in a political arena on a pure partisanship basis and we ought to act that way. I don't think he disagreed ... but he would say what's effective is for you to be factual and for you to be a lawyer. At the end of the day, he was right, not always, but most of the time."

RUFF'S no-comment approach does not come naturally: His parents both worked in public relations, and his 87-year-old mother is still active representing clients in the music industry.

After attending Swarthmore College and Columbia Law School, the New York City native spotted a flier advertising Ford Foundation teaching opportunities in Africa and jumped at the chance, traveling to Liberia with his wife to teach law.

"It was one of those great things you can only do when you're young and stupid," Ruff said.

One morning he woke up with a flu-like illness and could not move his legs; he has been paralyzed ever since as a result of a mysterious disease that even Jonas Salk, the inventor of the polio vaccine, could not identify.

Ruff's closest colleagues say he is such a private person that they have never asked about his disability.

"Law is a sedentary profession," he said, dismissing questions about how using a wheelchair has affected his life. "It's not something I talk about."

Ruff joined the Justice Department, moving up through the ranks and eventually over to the Watergate special prosecution force, then became US attorney for the District of Columbia from 1979 to 1982, overseeing part of the Abscam prosecution of members of Congress.

As a partner at Covington & Burling, one of the city's most prestigious law firms, his work was more often behind-the-scenes, trying to head off indictments, than in the courtroom.

Among his fellow Washington lawyers, Ruff enjoys almost unparalleled stature. "The most respected guy in town," Reid Weingarten called Ruff.

"One of the finest lawyers and, indeed, finest people in the city," said John Bates, who worked for Ruff in the US Attorney's Office here and later served as a deputy to Starr.

IT was that reputation that Clinton reached out to in selecting Ruff to be his lawyer.

"He brings to the office just a deep well of credibility in this town," said Ruff's predecessor, Jack Quinn.

Asked whether he was worried about tarnishing his reputation in the job, Ruff said, "Sure. But you don't let that shape your way of doing business."

And Ruff's way of doing business goes back to his Watergate days. In the interview, Ruff became animated over one achievement from that time.

"One thing I think we did accomplish – and I do not mean this as any comment on the current situation," Ruff said, "we did a great job of being a closed operation. If you ask your colleagues, they were really frustrated about not being able to get information out of the Watergate special prosecutor's office."

But Ruff – though he has played a behind-the-scenes role in various White House attacks on Starr – declined the temptation to compare their prosecutorial tenures.

"I appreciate your offering me the chance," he said. "I'll pass it by and leave it to others to judge."

(Washington Post)

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هكذا من الأصل

Youngsters tune up for stardom

By HELEN KAYE

"Like this," says 17-year-old Yoav Klein, and blows a long, mellow note on his bassoon.

Tympanist Nadav Rogel, also 17, takes the instrument, produces a pretty credible facsimile, and beams.

Not that he's going to play bassoon – drums and percussion are his thing – but "why not try? The bassoon's a beautiful instrument."

Little exchanges like that happen all over the campus, in a variety of disciplines, all during the two-and-a-half weeks of the Matan summer camp for the arts at Kibbutz Givat Haviva. It started July 13 and ends tomorrow, with a grand concert at which practically everybody performs for everybody else.

Matan is the Hebrew acronym for the Arts and Culture Project for Youth, an organization established in 1980, "to discover and develop talented youth all over the country," says Matan director Uri Strisover.

Yoav and Nadav met at camp two years ago. Both want to continue their musical studies, but like so many youngsters at the camp, aren't sure of the direction they'll take. Both play in the Symphony Ensemble, Matan's showcase group of 40 young musicians, one of the camp's six musical groups.

There are some 600 youngsters on the Givat Haviva campus. Along with music, the intensive classes encompass classical, modern and jazz dance, theater, the plastic arts, and – for the first time this year – creative writing. There is also a special circus arts program for a group of Ethiopian youngsters, some of whom had started learning juggling and acrobatics in Addis Ababa.

Rami Neipris has been the camp director for four years. Discipline, he says, is rarely a problem because the kids are very highly motivated. The camp population, he says varies from year to year. This summer, dance is tops with 200 students, music has 180, theater 120, the fine arts 80 and writing, 40.

These young people are the cream, skimmed by audition, from some 2,000 youngsters who apply to Matan programs annually. (Other programs include smaller camps during the Pessah and Hanukka vacations.)

All applicants are recommended by their teachers or counselors at their local community centers; Matan has been part of the Association of Community Centers since 1994.

CHILAF Peled, 17, has been coming to Matan camps since he was 12. Today he plays alto sax in the three-year-old jazz division. When he started, he played in the now-defunct wind ensemble.

He lives in Beersheba, which he describes as "pretty much of a musical desert then. I'd heard about the auditions, and I was sure I'd fail because Matan seemed – wow! – so inaccessible.

"I think I've improved about 200% since I started. I've learned self-discipline, which you need to create and orchestra. I've developed the ability to listen and attend, because without these, you can't create. I can't tell you how the camp has changed me, but it does. I go home a different person."

At 13, Sivan Shalev from Yehud is one of the younger campers. She's one of some 20 girls in a jazz dance class. She loves jazz dance, but her ambition is to be a classical ballet dancer. She studies classical ballet in Yehud and says, with justifiable pride, that she was the only one in her half of the Dan region to be accepted to the camp's dance program.

If looks are an aid to ambition, then Sivan is in good shape. She's tiny, thin, with a heart-shaped face and huge grey eyes, the very picture of a classical ballerina. Her parents, she says, will fly to London to find her a suitable ballet summer school.

Meanwhile the camp "gives me self-confidence and a new way of learning."

"The professional and artistic levels available to the children here are very hard to duplicate," says Neipris. "They are frequently of a much higher standard than they can get at home.

"Additionally, the intensity of the instruction and the demands made on the children quickly shows *them* whether or not they have a future in the arts.

"An added bonus is that they're inundated by and opened up to new experiences in disciplines other than their own, and socially they quickly realize that they're not the only geniuses on the block."

The youngsters don't look like geniuses. Except for their leotards, their sketchpads, their video cameras (for the videodance project), and their instruments, they look like the teenagers they are – and make much the same amount of noise in the dining room.

The plaza outside the dining room is where there are open evenings a couple of times a week. It's camp policy for students to attend on-site concerts, dance concerts, plays and exhibitions by visiting artists as part of the curriculum, but the open evenings are a chance for the kids to do their own thing.

At the most recent one, Chilaf and his jazz buddies whomped up a jam session that got everybody dancing.

ACROSS THE rolling lawn, under a shade-giving canopy that is no protection against the stifling heat, Adi Sha'al, one of the two founder dancers of Vertigo, is giving a class.

He and his students are having a ball. To ecstatic giggles, he demonstrates how one dancer can roll over another without the bottom dancer getting squashed.

Sha'al has been teaching at Matan for several years, but this year the whole company is serving as artists-in-residence at the camp and has performed for the students.

The company "has dancers who knew us as teachers in Matan. For me, the Matan concept is very important because it is a link between the students and the professional world."

Chilean conductor Francisco Rettig is his year's conductor-in-residence. Currently music director of the Bogota Philharmonic, Rettig camp to the camp at the invitation of Matan music director Luis Gorelik, the founding director of the Ashdod Chamber Orchestra.

"They are at a very good level," Rettig says of the students he is leading through Beethoven's 5th Symphony, at a rehearsal for tomorrow's concert.

"They are very cooperative, interested and sensitive. Here I find a genuine joy of making making music together which I don't always find among professional musicians."

Zohar Ben-Simhon of Moshav Hatzeva in the Arava, near Eilat, is experiencing joy of a different kind. He's a paradigm Matan kid, talented, eager and from a culture-sparse environment.

Strisover says Matan auditions are not biased, "but if we have a kid from some peripheral community whose score is the same as someone from the central region, we'll take that kid."

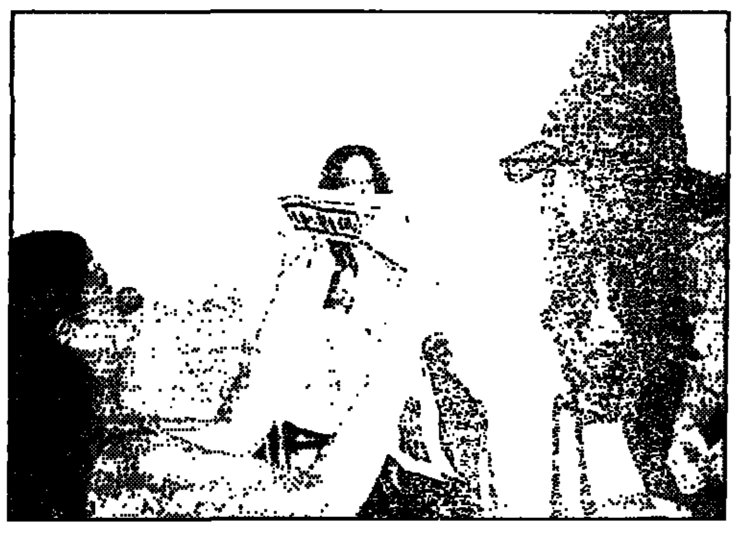
Zohar, at his first Matan camp, is in the theater program, where he has not only been exposed to different techniques but to a whole world of plays he never even knew existed.

He learned of Matan through his counselor at the Hatzeva Community Center and for the past year has been going to the Beersheba Theater once every two weeks as part of a Matan drama group.

"This has been my first real exposure to theater and I'm in shock," says the skinny, eager 17-year-old.

"Now, for the first time, I'm beginning to understand what is this thing, a play. It's a whole, extraordinary world and I'm changed, truly."

Some 600 youngsters attend the Matan summer camp for the arts at Kibbutz Givat Havivat.



The world's a stage: Budding actresses learn about drama

A year-round arts incubator

The seed money for Matan, the Arts and Culture Project for Youth, came from Bob and Mary-Anne Asher of Chicago. It is also supported by the Education Ministry and the Community Center Association.

Matan director Uri Strisover says the organization was created in 1980 to fulfill a real need, at a time when there were no formal, country-wide, junior arts institutions.

The Matan camp is open to all Israeli youth. The emphasis is on high-schoolers, but dance accepts students from age 13, and there is a special strings section for gifted children, some as young as 10.

Camp director Rami Neipris estimates that some 60 percent of the musicians are repeat campers; in the other disciplines the rates are 40 – 50%.

Matan has four geographical regions: Tel Aviv, Haifa, Beersheba and Eilat. In addition to the camps during Pessah, Hanukka and the summer, there is year-round activity, with the regions creating their own programs within the various disciplines.

Year-round, Matan teachers, some of the country's most eminent names, change every three years. Visiting teachers (usually for the camps), come on contract "provided we can afford them," says Strisover. Foreign embassies "usually help with teachers from abroad."

Its annual budget is NIS 5 million, 40% of which comes from Matan's institutional sponsors, 40% is earned income and 20% is donations. Tuition at the summer camps is NIS 950 per week and NIS 2,600 for the full session; kids who can't afford it get scholarships. This year NIS 50,000 was earmarked for the purpose. – *H.K.*

NEWS

of the muse

By HELEN KAYE

Shilon dynasty on Channel 1

The Shilons are set to become a broadcasting dynasty. Dan Shilon's wife, Miri, has been signed by Channel 1 to host a talk show (what else?) called *Shilon on 1*.

Hailed by Israel Broadcasting Authority head Uri Porat as "the sprout that ushers in the spring of Channel 1," the new show will have the typical Shilon composition.

There'll be five interviewees: a politician, an artist, a human-interest story, and two women "with extraordinary stories."

The idea "may have been Dan's," Shilon said at her press conference earlier this week, "but the execution, the format and the methods of interviewing are all mine."

She has worked in the media for 20 years as an editor and in production, but this is her debut in front of a camera.

Her husband *Dan Shilon Live* on Channel 2 is consistently among the top 10 TV programs. *Shilon on 1* will premiere in September and will air Sunday nights at 9:30.

Banai dynasty at arts & crafts fair

Hutzot Hayotzer, the arts-and-crafts fair at Sultan's Pool in Jerusalem, is an annual event that provides hours of fun. Visitors go from booth to booth admiring (and buying) arts, crafts, apparel, food and more from scores of countries.

This year's fair is from August 4-15, and in addition to some 150 booths, there'll be top-flight entertainment almost every night in honor of the jubilee year.

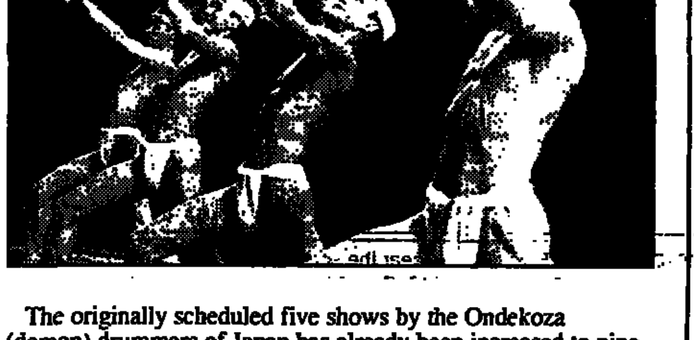
The lineup includes David Deor, Yuval, Ehud and Evyatar Banai (separately), Yirmi Kaplan and The Flowers, David Broza, a salute by the world choirs of the Zimriya, Corinne Allal, Micha Shetreet and Ivri Lidar.

All you need is love

Who needs Valentine's Day? The Hebrew calendar has its own love fest. On August 6 and 7 Israel's creative women singer/songwriters celebrate Tu Be'av with *Intima Next* at the Simta Theater in Old Jaffa. The two-day festival presents 11 performances featuring new and familiar material from the likes of Ronit Shahar, Corinne Allal, Dana Berger, Yael Levi, Rinat Gabai, Lilach Eyn-Habar, Orli Perl and Idit Eshel.

Tickets to what promises to be a an unusual event are NIS 25 to NIS 45.

Placating Japanese gods



The originally scheduled five shows by the Ondekoza (demon) drummers of Japan has already been increased to nine. They will play at five venues country-wide starting September 12 at the Mann Auditorium in Tel Aviv and ending September 19 at the Roman Theater in Ceasarea.

Founded in 1969 by Tagayasu Den, who still leads the company, Ondekoza comprises an ensemble of bamboo flutes, stringed instruments and drums ranging from nine to 318kg.

The music is based on Japanese folk tunes, and traditional festival drum routines whose purpose is to placate and please the spirits and gods which are part of the fabric of Japanese culture and tradition. Ondekoza musicians live communally and both physical and mental training are part of their daily routine.

Subscription offer for Herzliya orchestra

Going into its 18th season, the Herzliya Chamber Orchestra offers an intriguing program of classical and contemporary music ranging from Mozart to Copland and from Bach to Avni.

HCO founder and music director Harvey Bordowitz always tries to include works by lesser-known composers, or lesser-known works by well-known composers, in his line-up, such as a trumpet concerto by Neruda.

The HCO also sponsors a competition for soloists and then showcases the winner in one of the season's concerts. Bordowitz enlivens performances with a pre-concert lecture which enhances the audience's understanding.

Concerts are held at Ya'ari, in Moshav Bitan Aharon near Netanya. Subscriptions are NIS 495, but subscribers renewing by July 31 can get a double subscription for NIS 645.

Levy-Agron competition winners

Eynat Zuta, a graduate of the Jerusalem Rubin Academy of Music and Dance, won the $1,000 first prize in the first Hassia Levy-Agron choreographers' competition which took place at the academy earlier this month. Zuta won with *Pictures in Time*.

Second prize winner ($600) was Keren Levy for *Cold* and the $400 third prize went to another academy graduate, Liat Zituni, for *Rosita de Marmelada*.

Choreographer and Israel Prize laureate Moshe Efrati, who danced with Levy-Agron when both worked with Martha Graham in New York, donated the first prize, and organized the competition as a tribute to Levy-Agron, who won the Israel Prize this year for her contribution to dance.

Golan & Globus reunite

By HELEN KAYE

After close to a decade during which they scarcely spoke, Menahem Golan and his erstwhile inseparable friend and partner Yoram Globus have teamed up again. Their new company, Magic Entertainment, is incorporated in New York but much of the activity is to take place here.

Never ones to hide their light under a bushel, Golan and Globus have two big projects scheduled for next month. On August 3 Golan starts rehearsals for his own stage musical version of *Beauty and the Beast*, scheduled to open on Succot.

Sassi Keshet, who played Captain von Trapp in Golan's hugely successful *The Sound of Music* (1995), will play the beast, and discovery Rinat Gabai will play the beauty, Belle. Golan auditioned 300 unknowns to find his star, and prophesies a bright future for the young woman who has already sung twice for the pope in the Vatican.

Always loyal to tried-and-true colleagues, Golan has enlisted Roni Weiss to write and arrange the music and Hilik Cohen to choreograph the dance routines, and he will direct.

Meanwhile, Hollywood action-flick director Joe Zito is here to scout locations for the first renascent Golan/Globus movie *Delta Force One*, which will star Mike Norris, Chuck's son. Filming will start August 9.

Zito made several movies for Golan/Globus during the glory days of their earlier firm, Cannon, before it collapsed in the early Nineties.

Sassi Keshet and Rinat Gabai

(Itzhik Oved)

Pianists head for Upper Galilee

By MICHAEL AJZENSTADT

Leading Israeli and international pianists will join piano teachers and students in Upper Galilee for two hectic weeks of master classes this summer.

It is the seventh year of a program that started at Tel Hai Regional College and moved last summer to the Clore Music Center at Kfar Blum.

Marina Bondarenko, the general director of this venture, and Emanuel Krasovsky, the artistic director, have gathered nine distinguished pianists together this summer. Aside from Krasovsky, Israelis Yahli Wagman, Pnina Salzman, Michael Boguslavsky and Victor Derevianko will share the teaching honors with regulars Sontraud Spiedel from Germany and Israeli Yoheved Kaplinsky from the Juilliard School of Music. Jose Ribera from Spain and John O'Conor from Ireland will also join the teaching team this year.

But, the participating pianists get much more than individual classes, open masterclasses and recital opportunities over the program's two weeks.

From tomorrow to August 15 the students will attend lectures and concert-lectures, and take several trips around the country.

This year, the annual competition that was one of the major components of the program has been canceled. Organizers suggest that many youngsters believed that the competition created extra tension in what is on the whole an intensive yet relaxing course.

The traditional awards will still be granted – three prizes totaling $2,300 – according to teachers' impressions over the two-week course. The prizewinners will perform at the final gala concert on August 15 in Tel Aviv.

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Shifting sands

In the Knesset today, the coalition and opposition were expected to fight like gladiators, even though the prize was more of a symbolic victory than a matter of political life or death.

The coalition's last-minute decision to boycott today's preliminary vote on dissolving the Knesset and holding new elections will not dissipate the cloud of instability, created by the government's inability to muster a majority in its own defense. The government's loss could well snowball later on, and could further dent Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu's badly battered international standing.

In the meantime, the Knesset forfeit has diverted attention from an important new dilemma regarding the composition – rather than the size – of the expected redeployment.

The latest wrinkle in the negotiations is a reported offer by Defense Minister Yitzhak Mordechai in his talks with Mahmoud Abbas to designate three percent of the territory as a "nature reserve," in which neither Israel nor the Palestinians would build.

While initially the proposed reserve was thought to consist of those areas that surrounded certain settlements, Mordechai's new idea is reportedly that the reserve would be a contiguous portion of the Judean Desert.

If the government did, in fact, propose handing over even symbolic control of portions of the Judean Desert, it would be a remarkable concession on Israel's part.

Until now, the entire Jordan Valley and Judean Desert has been sacrosanct. Both Labor and Likud governments have regarded the eastern desert, which is largely devoid of Arab population, to be Israel's security buffer. In addition, The Third Way sees the empty desert as a reservoir for potential Israeli settlement.

The Third Way's triple final-status objective is to retain control of settlement blocs in which 93 percent of the settlers live; provide the Palestinians control over a contiguous area; and retain as much empty territory as possible for security and future settlements. Settler leaders like Aharon Domb, director of the Council of Jewish Communities in Judea, Samaria and Gaza, argue it is fruitless to try to retain empty territory. They would rather fight for every settlement, even if it makes the future Palestinian entity look like Swiss cheese.

The effect of the reported proposal is to pit the settler movement and its NRP allies against The Third Way's ideology of maximizing control over land, not necessarily settlements. In this debate, The Third Way's position is more compatible both with Israel's long-term interests and with the peace process.

As Third Way MK Alex Lubotzky argues, there is "no chance" that Israel will retain control of the areas where Arab villages are densely concentrated, such as between Nablus and Jenin.

But in the Jerusalem area, Gush Etzion, along the Green Line, and along the Trans-Samaria and Allon roads, the concentration of Israeli settlements and the sparseness of Palestinian population is such that both sides expect Israel to retain control of these areas in a final-status agreement. If Palestinians insist on controlling every Arab village and Israelis every Jewish settlement, a peace agreement will be impossible to achieve.

If Israel were to try and retain every existing settlement in a final-status deal, it would have to pay in other areas, most likely including the handover of empty territory. In this situation, there is a clear trade-off between isolated settlements and barren land.

It is understandable that the settler leadership finds it hard to choose empty territory, mostly harsh desert, over existing settlements. But the irony here is that a movement that has dedicated so much toil and sacrifice to maximizing Jewish control over the historic land of Israel, is now taking a stance that could cost that objective dearly when it counts most – in final-status talks.

From a national perspective, it makes no sense for Netanyahu to make concessions on territory that remains within the national consensus before final-status talks have even begun. The Allon Plan, which epitomized the Labor approach to the final disposition of the territories, was built upon retaining the empty eastern desert, while withdrawing from the Arab populated areas. Between 1968 and 1977, Labor governments established over 30 settlements, essentially in accordance with the Allon Plan.

Though The Third Way is thought to have broken away from Labor mainly over the issue of the Golan Heights, its platform also scores Labor for "abandoning" the Allon Plan and its vision of territorial compromise.

It is a strange twist of fate that Allon's concept, which the Likud always considered minimalist, would now have to be defended by The Third Way against concessions offered the Palestinians by Binyamin Netanyahu.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

DEAR RUTHIE'S WRONG

Sir, – Although advice offered for problems described in a letter is highly questionable, nevertheless the advice given by "Dear Ruthie" generally demonstrates a cogent understanding of the human condition. However, I beg to differ with her advice given to "Moaning Mom" (July 21).

Answering a question as to how to deal with the vacation aimlessness of her children, Ruthie Blum is critical of Mom's attempts to occupy her children gainfully, putting the "blame on Mame" for becoming irritated by her children's behavior.

Actually, Mom's plan of setting house-keeping tasks for her children, with rewards, was a good one except that its purpose was only to preoccupy her children, rather than to teach them to help with chores. The plan would have been effective if she gave rewards not only for doing the chores, but also for doing them according to her specifications.

Furthermore, instead of focusing on the children, Blum suggests that Mom work a little harder on herself to avoid being irritable with her children.

DR. CARL LAMPNER

Jerusalem.

RABBIS' ROLE

Sir, – Gerald Steinberg's objection in "Take rabbis out of politics" (July 3), to the new role of rabbinic authority in public policy is 100 percent valid, so long as he excludes politicians who happen to be rabbis as well.

Let it be noted however that the only prime minister to appoint to his government a rabbi whose sole qualification was his rabbinic authority, was Shimon Peres who had Rabbi Amital as a minister without either portfolio or function.

Be that as it may, there are two areas where rabbinic involvement is warranted. Before the Knesset or the government departments make decisions on questions such as transplants, executions, abortions, treatment of the terminally ill and other matters of life-and-death ethics, I would hope that rabbinic authorities would be taken into account. At least as much as "what the rest of the world is doing these days."

And as far as Steinberg's wish to excluded rabbinic authorities from the conversion issue (and eventually patrilineage as well), I would love to agree with him.

This halachic question should not be part of the general public debate to begin with. However once the courts have decided that it is, the rabbinate can hardly be denied the right to defend itself.

ISRAEL PICKHOLTZ

Elazar, Gush Etzion.

GEULA'S FRESH FACE

Sir, – We read regretfully in 'Haim Yavin's return to 'Mabat'" (July 27) of the replacement of Channel 1's news anchor Geula Even.

Why? Her fresh face and clear reading were always a pleasure to watch.

She showed the "nice face" of Israel, which isn't shown often enough.

Who would disagree?

JUDY and ARI MARKS

Moshav Avichail.

SCHIZOPHRENIC BEHAVIOR

Sir, – The schizophrenic behavior of the Israel Ba'aliyah party can be of no comfort to its electorate.

Their proposal of a bill to facilitate mixed marriages in a land where children of those marriages will not be able to take their place amongst the Jewish people, is in direct contrast to their opposition to conversion reform, the freeing of non kosher meat imports and enlistment for all.

Israel B'aliyah (bending over backwards to keep their seats) attempts to placate the religious establishment, which puts obstacles in the way of immigrants from the former Soviet Union and would limit those very freedoms for which they fought in the USSR, especially freedom of choice.

Their leader Natan Sharansky, was arrested in Moscow for his activities in the Human Rights Committee. He would do well to think about the human and civil rights issues facing us now, both within and without our land.

ZELDA HARRIS

Netanya.

FROM OUR ARCHIVES

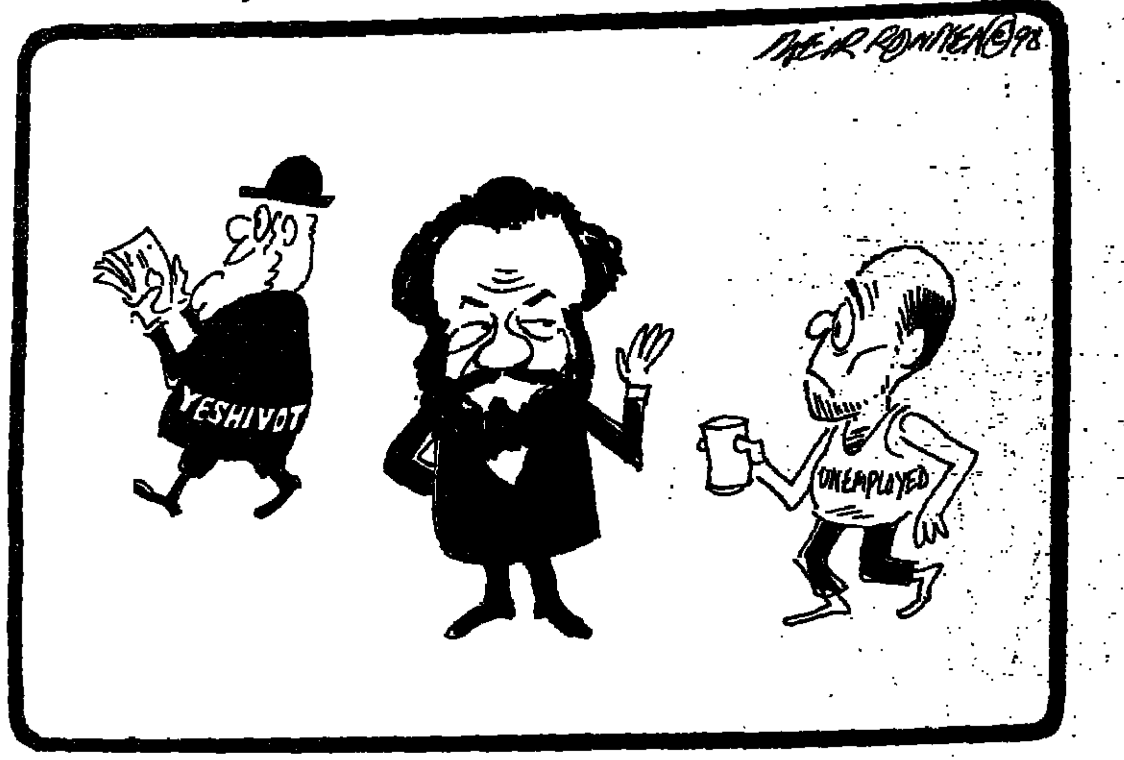
50 years ago: On July 29, 1948, *The Palestine Post* reported on Arab violations of the cease-fire and the Egyptian attacks in the Negev. An Israeli soldier was killed by a sniper in Jerusalem.

The four-day experiment of providing an uninterrupted electric current supply was tested in Jerusalem. The city got more food and reconstruction started in the damaged Ben-Yehuda street.

25 years ago: On July 29, 1973, *The Jerusalem Post* reported that "it would be very serious" for Norwegian-Israeli relations if it were proven that members of the group arrested after the killing of a suspected Black September terrorist, Ahmed Bouschiki, a Moroccan who was shot dead outside of his home in Lillehammer, had cooperated with Israeli officials.

Alexander Zvielli

"Sorry, we just gave away our last 20 million..."



Jerusalem agenda

MOSHE ZAK

The Conference of Islamic Foreign Ministers, which meets today in Casablanca under the presidency of Morocco's King Hassan II, will not be discussing the 13% withdrawal from Judea and Samaria or Iran's 1,300 kilometer range long-range missiles. It has been called to discuss the question of Jerusalem and should be viewed by us as an integral part of an offensive on all fronts which the Arabs have launched against Israel.

Nothing untoward has occurred in Jerusalem which necessitates such urgent Islamic action. Construction has not begun at Har Homa, while the plan for expanding Jerusalem's area of jurisdiction was abandoned almost immediately after its proposal, and not because of Arab objections, but because of the outcry of the Jewish satellite towns surrounding the city.

There was no particular reason for the recent UN Security Council debate on Jerusalem, and there is no reason now to hold an urgent meeting of the Jerusalem Conference, headed by the king of Morocco.

Yasser Arafat, however, knows that there is nothing better to ignite the Arab and Moslem world than the issue of Jerusalem. Fantasies about Jerusalem and tales of the activities of the city's "heretics" are the fuel used to incite millions of Moslems against Israel.

Arafat was not satisfied with the statement issued by the officiating chairman of the UN Security Council that called for Israel not to expand Jerusalem's boundaries. In the midst of this week's critical discussions with Israel, Arafat flew to Casablanca for the Jerusalem Conference, with the intention of inciting the Moslem world against us and in an effort to demonstrate to the Americans the extent of the fire which is likely to spread over the area if the US continues to assist Israel.

The PA leader is attempting to scare the American Senate away from following the example of the House of Representatives, which forced the State Department and American Consulate in Jerusalem to head official documents with the words: "Jerusalem, Israel." However, this is a secondary target.

The primary target is far-reaching – to force us to be permanently on the defensive in the face of Arab initiatives.

IN the euphoria which has gripped so many people in the aftermath of Oslo, we naively believed that we had been given a "time out" in the debate with the Palestinians on the complex issue of Jerusalem.

Today's Casablanca conference proves that the hope the Palestinians would not raise the issue of Jerusalem was a mere illusion

This was a short-lived illusion and it was not long before Arafat upset the order of things and pushed the question of Jerusalem to the forefront. But these illusions had already given rise to Israeli proposals to stop interfering in activities at the Orient House and not to build at Har Homa. Other proposals included not opening the Western Wall Tunnel and not to prevent the Palestinians from changing the status quo on the Temple Mount, so as not to awaken the issue of Jerusalem from its slumber before the time was ripe.

In retrospect, it is now abundantly clear that the Palestinians did not share this desire to keep Jerusalem on the back burner. They set up a ministry for Jerusalem affairs, sent their secret service to operate inside Jerusalem under the noses of the Israeli authorities and drew us into debates in the UN on affairs relating to Jerusalem.

The Palestinians are not willing to wait until the permanent settlement with Israel is discussed but are demanding that freedom of movement for Palestinians in Jerusalem be settled now. They are relentless on the subject of Jerusalem and are fully aware that this is Israel's Achilles heel.

The illusion of a political lull between ourselves and the Palestinians regarding Jerusalem has reached an end. At Arafat's exhortation, the Islamic Conference on Jerusalem is planning its next steps.

In Israel's early years, our main concern was the Christian world, which rallied to have its resolution at the UN on the internationalization of Jerusalem approved. We did not pay sufficient attention to Moslem sensitivity on Jerusalem. Pressure brought to bear by the Christian world resulted in a strategic partnership between Israel and Jordan. This partnership gave preference to the division of Jerusalem between the two countries over the solution of internationalizing the entire city.

Now another conceptual mistake has been exposed: Israel believed that the Palestinians were intent on promoting the interim agreement with Israel and would therefore freeze the debate over Jerusalem, leaving it to the final stages of the peace process, once the terms of the permanent settlement had been agreed. This did not happen.

The Palestinians have made Jerusalem the spearhead of their political conflict with Israel. By pressuring Israel on the subject of Jerusalem, Arafat seeks to bully us into performing the second withdrawal, and to ensure that in nine months time the Palestinian state will be born.

Change the tune

DAVID NEWMAN

It is shortly before the onset of Shabbat and we have some unexpected guests. My daughter turns up with two girls of her own age, part of a group of American teenagers spending their summer in Israel. During their six-week stay, they spend some of the weekends in a home hospitality program.

It brings back memories. We, the parents, were participants in these tours 20 and more years ago, in some cases returning as youth leaders, all the more experienced (so we believed) for actually having participated in a tour the previous year.

For many of us these tours, often organized through the Zionist or Jewish youth movements we attended, became a critical part of the socialization process we underwent as impressionable teenagers. They led to some of us returning to Israel for a full year or two immediately after graduating high school which, in turn, played a major part in our decision to leave what were, so we were told, the fleshpots of the West, to make our homes and future lives in Israel.

The conditions have improved since we were participants, although at a current price of $5,000 per participant this is to be expected. Where we once travelled on the backs of open trucks, they now enjoy the benefits of air-conditioned buses. Where we had to stay in rundown youth centers and hostels, the level of accommodation has greatly improved with modernized hostels and/or mid-level hotels taking over.

But it is the educational program that particularly interests me. The actual detail may have changed and is probably presented in a more sophisticated fashion, but the overall message has remained the same. It can be summed up as follows:

Impress upon these youth the wonders of Israel, the Jewish state.

Persuade them that everything is good and just in the Jewish homeland, as compared with the dangers and evils awaiting those who remain in the Diaspora.

Despite the major changes which Israeli society has experienced in the past 20 years, the message for these youth groups remains the same. The struggle for independence is relived, while the security threat remains a constant theme. The real problems facing contemporary Israel are brushed aside – there are no internal Sephardi-Ashkenazi rifts, no problems between religious and secular, there is no occupation of the West Bank and a disintegrating peace process – these tours are the last bastion of the Zionist information enterprise.

It's time to see Israel as it really is, rather than focusing solely on past stories of heroism and tragedy

INTENSIVE tours of this nature are pressure-cookers for socialization. They tend to bypass the daily lives of most Israelis. The groups live in their own detached world of tourist and religious sites, meeting each other at symposiums and ideological seminars. They are as unaware of five million other Israelis going on with their daily lives around them, as Israelis are unaware of the existence of these groups – unless you just happen to meet up with one of them at Yad Vashem, the Western Wall or a pizza joint in Jerusalem.

It is not only Diaspora youth who are affected by these intensive forms of ideological socialization. Take the tours of Eastern Europe and the concentration camps which have now become common for Israeli children. Without doubt, these are powerful trips and the participants are usually prepared well in advance. But in addition to the educational experience, the trips have become a sort of last-resort attempt by a failed educational system to instill a sense of Israeli identity and pride in Israeli youth.

Having, for the most part, failed to explain to cynical Israeli teenagers what Israel is all about and why they should want to be part of this continuing process of state-building, the opening up of Eastern Europe has presented a new option.

Show the kids how weak the Jewish people were, what happened to them at the hands of the Other. If nothing else, impress upon them that Israel is a lowest common denominator for some form of artificial national unity.

Fifty years into statehood and it is the same old message. It is not about how to build and interact in a heterogeneous society. It is not about how to overcome cultural and religious gaps as we strive for the same type of egalitarianism and equality that many of these youngsters enjoy in their home societies.

No, it is still about being threatened and weak, the dangers of living in a world where everyone hates us.

Is this the only message we should be sending to the teenagers of the new millennium? Is this going to persuade them to eventually leave their homes and join us permanently? Perhaps a more realistic outlook on Israeli life, including an attempt to come to grips with the very real problems facing this society, Jewish and Arab, religious and secular, would – in this globalized satellite world where everyone knows what is taking place everywhere – stand a better chance of succeeding. Time to change the tune. Time to see Israel as it really is rather than focusing solely on past stories of heroism and tragedy.

Make a list

NICOLAUS MILLS

In high school, a friend and I used to play a game we called Fictional All-Star Baseball. We'd pick all-star teams of novelists, choosing writers not only for the quality of their work (often only a short story) but for how we imagined they would play a particular position.

It was easy to agree on catchers. We both wanted the steady, fatherly Leo Tolstoy behind the plate. He seemed the perfect literary anchor. But the rest of the team was up for grabs. In center field, where speed mattered, did you choose a wordsmith like Henry James over the stylish Gustave Flaubert?

At pitcher did you start a versatile bilingualist like Joseph Conrad over a subtle trickster like Anton Chekhov? And what about nut cases? It was impossible to ignore the greatness of Fyodor Dostoyevski, but he seemed sure to spoil team chemistry.

I thought of my high school game when I saw the list of the 100 best English-language novels of the 20th century that the editorial board of the Modern Library recently published.

Following so closely on the heels of the American Film Institute's 100 best movies, it suggested the start of a trend. We have already accustomed ourselves to *US News and World Report*'s annual lists of the best colleges and hospitals and, without even thinking about it, we regularly buy booklets of the best restaurants. Listmania is here.

It is not too much to imagine that in the near future we will be getting lists of the 100 best paintings or the 100 best buildings and finally the mother of all lists – the list of the 100 greatest lists of all time.

Like most people, I enjoy reading lists. When the American Film Institute published its 100 best, I thought they had short-changed Buster Keaton, and I liked quarreling with the Modern Library list as well. How, I wondered, could F. Scott Fitzgerald do so much better than William Faulkner? How could Ralph Ellison be rated ahead of E.M. Forster?

Lists may be arbitrary, elitist, rigid. But they are clear

It's fun to argue with experts. Among my friends, I expect that the Modern Library list will be a dinner-table topic just as the film tabulation was.

WHAT lies behind this new listmania is a different, and more serious question, however. At the most obvious level the lists are a marketing tool. The American Film Institute gets great publicity from its tabulation, and it is possible, as Turner Network Television has, to do television programs based on film clips from the AFI list.

The same goes for Random House, which owns Modern Library. Its list has generated the kind of media coverage money can't buy, and it is sure to help with sales of the Modern Library books Random House reissues.

But something else is also at work without new listmania. The lists fit into our current celebrity culture. They turn books and films into stars – rather than unique and idiosyncratic works of art. Also, those of us who have read or seen a book or film on a 100-best list acquire the right to pass ourselves off as connoisseurs.

As the books and films on a list acquire new status, so do those of us with knowledge of them. Even more important, the lists address the uncertainty we have about current cultural standards. These days we are overwhelmed with information and unsure about how to judge it.

Gone are the days when everyone knew what a classic was, when everyone could tell decent from indecent. We have become a heterogeneous society whose members have less and less in common.

Lists give us a break from such ambiguity. They may be arbitrary, elitist, rigid. But they are clear. Here, they say, is the best book, the best film, the best hospital you can find. Take a list to heart, and you don't have to worry any longer about ranking.

Talk-show host David Letterman, whose goofy top 10 lists are invariably a way of parodying the day's news, has understood the therapeutic effects of lists for years. Now that listmania is upon us, we should, too.

(Newsday)

I got the rhythm in me

Parenting

By Ruth Mason

Tiny mice race under mighty bridges, night fairies dance through the forest and an industrious ant sweeps her house in the magical world created in Tali Baumfeld's eurythmy class.

To the accompaniment of stories told in rhyme and song by Baumfeld, 10 four-year-olds become the mice, the fairies, the ant and a host of other characters including horses, cows, donkeys and an angry elf. They gallop, stamp their feet, dance on tiptoe, laugh and gaze in wonder as their teacher weaves her magic spell.

Eurythmy is a form of movement taught in Waldorf schools, here and all over the world. Like the rest of Waldorf education, eurythmy aims to reach the child's feelings and soul as well as his mind.

"There's something very natural in eurythmy," says Baumfeld, who trained as a eurythmy teacher in England.

"In a world that's becoming more and more mechanistic, eurythmy is very connected to nature. It takes its movements from the way the wheat sways in the field, the way branches move in the wind. And it feeds the imagination.

"Together, the children and I enter another world. In order to do eurythmy with children, I enter their heads. I become a child, I see the world as they do."

"In order to do eurythmy with children...I become a child, I see the world as they do," says Tami Baumfeld who teaches this form of movement in Waldorf schools. (Sarit Uziely)

IN Jerusalem's Gan Hashemesh kindergarten, the class is divided in half for their weekly eurythmy lesson. The older children sit around a table in the garden working on sewing projects while a teacher brings the younger children, three by three, into the main room, where Baumfeld is quietly sitting and playing a lyre.

She is surrounded by a circle of wooden stands covered with fabric dyed in soft colors. The children sit on the floor with their legs in the circle, creating rays of sun "that will shine on us, on Emek Refaim, on all of Jerusalem and on the whole world."

Without realizing it, the children work on spatial relations by greeting, in song, their neighbor in front and behind them. They cross right leg over left to greet the neighbor on the left. They wiggle their toes to say hello while singing a rhyming song invented by Baumfeld.

"At the beginning of each lesson, I do some body awareness exercises, like warm-ups," Baumfeld says. "Where are the legs, the hands, the head? The older ones get more challenging exercises that involve coordination and balance.

"I never correct them. They catch on very fast – faster than their parents! – and they very quickly learn the text by heart."

The movements are done to stories and songs. Baumfeld doesn't tell the children how to move, she simply does the movements and they copy her. The younger children get simple stories from daily life about cleaning house, baking bread.

"On Hanukka, we go to the baker, Mr. Lahmani, and knock on his door and ask him if he needs help. At this age, children are so open to life, they're enchanted by these simple stories."

BAUMFELD stresses the importance of rhythm in the lesson and of the rhythmic changes of quiet and loud, inside and outside, opening and closing. The intervals and silences in between things are important too, she says.

So when children are kneading bread and chanting to the movements, they have a few beats of silence as they "knead," another few beats of silence as the bread "rises."

"We focus on what happens in between things; on this mysterious, silent time when the dough rises, when the plant grows," says Baumfeld. "It's a magical time. If we manage to penetrate into this time, then something magical happens in the lesson. It helps the children to grow, to expand."

As an art form, eurythmy works with sounds and their corresponding movements.

"It tries to find the connection between what we see and what we hear," says Baumfeld.

For example the sound "oh," made with a round mouth, is accompanied by a rounding of the arms. The sound "ah," made with an open mouth, goes with arms extended upward in an open gesture.

"Sound is alive," says Baumfeld. "It has volume; it takes up space."

For the older kindergarten children, Baumfeld teaches eurythmy through fairy tales – though she takes liberties with them. One story may take weeks with the children eagerly awaiting each new chapter.

"Instead of sitting and telling a story and having them listen only with their ears and their heads, I bring them into the story. Their whole bodies get involved."

At the end of the session, the kids sit around Baumfeld while she sings them a lullaby. They go to "sleep," wondering what adventures await them when the story continues next week.

A debate that hits home

Does a child ever deserve a good spanking? Parenting experts still don't agree on the use of corporal punishment – or a host of other issues. **Beverly Beyette** helps parents wade through contradictory advice

"Spare the rod and spoil the child." – **Samuel Butler, 1663**

"I'm not advocating spanking, but I think it is less poisonous than lengthy disapproval." – **Dr. Benjamin Spock, 1946**

"You can convince me that a good spanking does the child and the mother a lot of good. I've never doubted it. But I just don't like it." – **Bruno Bettelheim, 1962**

"The swing away from discipline in the '40s and '50s has provided us with a discontented, angry generation... Certainly physical punishment should be used as little as possible and as a last resort – but it may well be necessary to clear the air." – **Dr. T. Berry Brazelton, 1976**

"The American tradition of spanking, may be one (reason) there is much more violence in our country than in any other comparable nation." – **Dr. Spock, 1985**

"In my opinion, there is nothing wrong with attracting a misbehaving child's attention with one loud-but-not-very-hard whomp on his butt." – **Lewis A. Coffin, pediatrician, Emory University, and Internet "Kidsdoctor," 1998**

What's a parent to think?

While the American Academy of Pediatricians in December went on record as being against spanking, the American Psychological Association – which since 1974 has opposed corporal punishment in the schools – chose recently not to denounce corporal punishment of children in all situations.

The issue was brought up at APA's annual convention in August, but, says Irwin Hyman, one of the principals among anti-spanking forces, "I couldn't even get them to make a committee on it. It's a very controversial issue."

From temper tantrums to toilet-training, from the birds and bees to bed-wetting, advice is not in short supply for parents of babies and young children. But whom to turn to?

The child-rearing debate really escalated in 1946, when Dr. Benjamin Spock – who died in March at age 94 – burst upon the pediatric scene. And what a difference a few years – or a few decades – can make.

In 1946, Spock dispensed this advice on toilet-training: "It seems sensible ... to leave (the baby) in peace until he is old enough to know a little of what it's all about. I would wait until he can at least sit up steadily alone, which will be around 7 to 9 months."

But in 1962, child psychologist Bruno Bettelheim – whose credentials have been widely questioned since his 1990 suicide – wrote "If they say 'no,' it's 'no.' Then maybe two months later you suggest it again; and this game you play up to the age of 3."

In 1989, best-selling children's advice writer Penelope Leach, in *Your Baby and Child* (Alfred Knopf) told parents, "If you start later, he will learn faster and reach the same point at the same time. ... He won't set off for big school in diapers."

In 1983, the late Dr. Lee Salk's advice was: Never before 18 months.

Two years later, Spock concurred: "Don't start until the middle of the second year."

And, finally, current advice from Dr. Bill and Martha Sears on the ParentTime Web site: "Tell your child the store is out of diapers" and let him play bare-bottom in the yard.

What about feeding? Mother's milk or formula? Low-fat or regular milk?

Back in 1946, Spock was advocating breast-feeding, reasoning, "It's safer to do things the natural way unless you are absolutely sure you have a better way."

But through the '50s, '60s and '70s, few pediatricians urged new mothers to breast-feed and most mothers chose bottle feeding. But many of today's young mothers choose to breast-feed.

"Breast-feeding is best," says Santa Clarita, Calif., pediatrician Dr. Loraine Stern, but "you can't just tell women to breast-feed. You have to provide enough support services to help them over the rough spots. One problem is that this generation of grandmothers is highly likely not to have breast-fed."

In the '60s and '70s, pediatricians routinely advised new mothers to segue from formula to low-fat milk. Today, low-fat is in disfavor, the theory being that until age 2 children need the extra calories.

Pacifiers have been objects of debate for decades – and still are. Bettelheim's take (1962): "The pacifier is usually easier to keep clean, it's softer (than a thumb) and they don't get calluses on their thumbs."

Salk's take (1983): "While I am inclined to advise against using a pacifier, I am not absolutely opposed to them ... but I am opposed to putting a pacifier into a child's mouth the instant she cries, which is not unlike giving an adult a tranquilizer every time he feels unhappy."

Spock's take (1985): "The pacifier, if used right, is an efficient way to prevent thumb-sucking" and "less likely to push the teeth out of position."

Leach's take (1989): "It is rare for books to suggest pacifiers, but there is no doubt that they can make a miraculous difference to a few miserable or jumpy babies."

But, she adds, don't use them as a magic bullet "to shut the child up instead of trying to find out what's the matter."

The Searses' take (1998): If it's pacifier vs. thumb, "we would vote for the thumb. It's easily found in the middle of the night, it doesn't fall on the floor."

When it comes to telling parents how to keep their sanity through a temper tantrum, the pros have always proved quite imaginative.

Parenting counselor Bobbie Sandoz advises: Let him cry it through "even if he bangs his head, kicks the walls, pulls his room apart or holds his breath and turns blue. ... And never, never give in."

Spock (1946 and 1985): If it's a public tantrum, "pick him up, with a grin if you can force it, and lug him off to a quiet spot where you can both cool off in private."

And then there's that perennial parental bugaboo – the facts of life.

"Sex education starts early, whether you plan it or not," Spock wrote in 1946, and again in 1985.

The truth is a better answer than the stork, he counseled, "because he's not going to be fooled for long, and then you have him knowing that you lied to him."

Salk (1983): "When these first questions come up, I think you should answer them in a simple and matter-of-fact way," one that is age appropriate. For preschoolers, he suggests explaining egg and sperm and how they come together.

And when the child asks if he can watch daddy and mommy in action? "Just explain that this is something people like to do when they are alone. It is very special and private."

Sandoz (1997): Answer their questions, naming body parts and their functions – but don't get carried away. Telling all in response to the first query, she says, is akin to telling the child interested in a cow "the whole story of dairy farming, the nutritional components of milk, and how it's marketed."

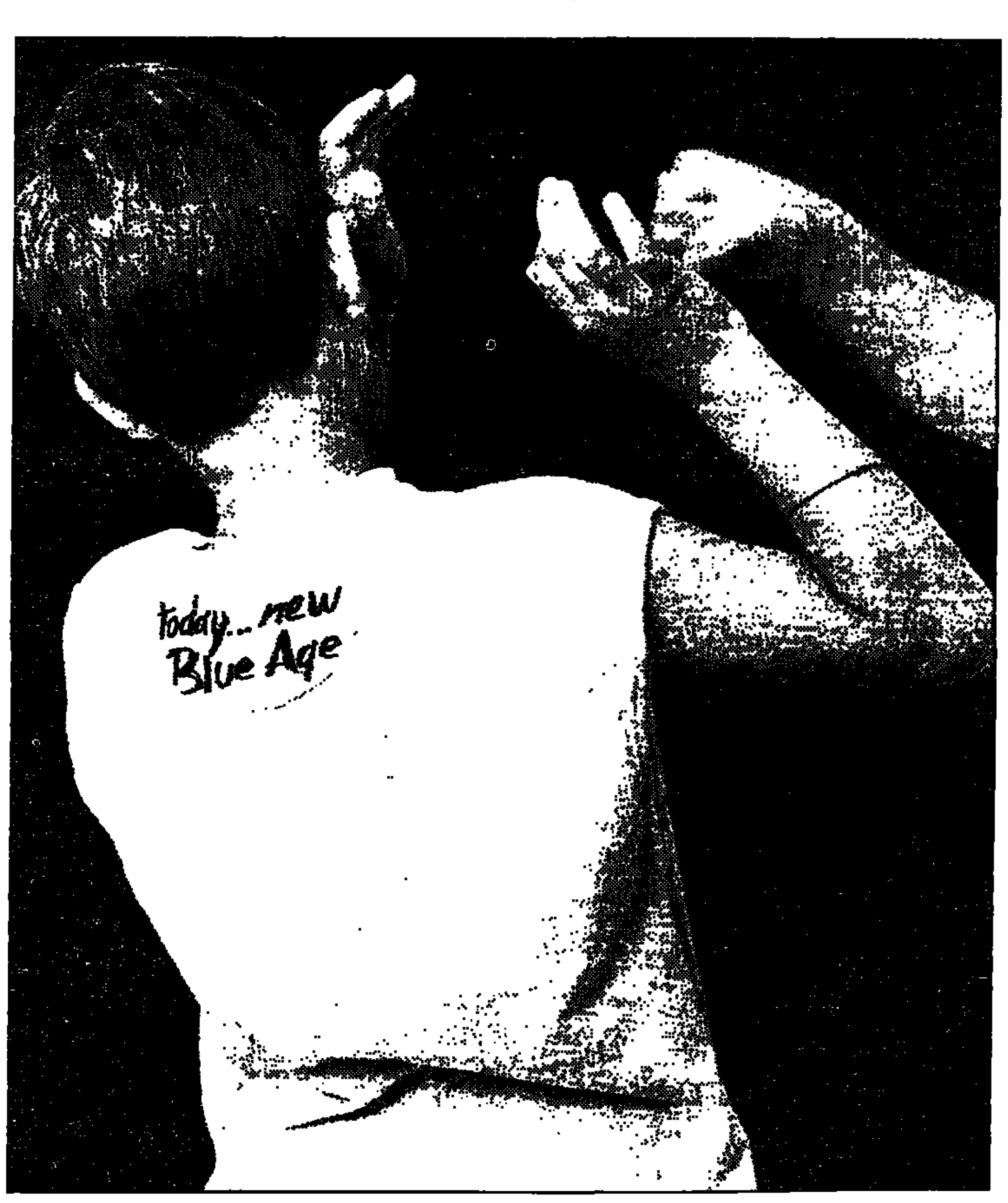
In the final analysis, does any of the above make much difference? Should parents spend sleepless nights wondering whether sharing their bed with their baby may encourage incest, as some pediatricians warn, or, as others suggest, it's a positive bonding experience?

"There's never going to be any last word on anything," Stern said. "Information changes. We're constantly learning new things."

Stern adds, "Parents worry about all these millions of things, that they might do the wrong thing. The things you think are pivotal, they don't even remember" and vice versa.

"Don't sweat everything. The most important single thing is that a child grows up knowing his parents adore him. ... When children know they're loved, they can cope with just about anything."

(The Los Angeles Times)



"The American tradition of spanking may be one (reason) there is much more violence in our country than in any other comparable nation," said Dr. Benjamin Spock in 1985. (James Levine)

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Gardener's Corner

Raising young gardeners

By Batsheva Mink

The summer holiday raises the age-old question of what to do with the children during the school break. Gardening is one good answer with advantages for busy parents who want more time with their children.

Most children today live in urban areas and have little contact with plant life outside visits to the park or botanical gardens, or driving through the countryside.

They have no idea where the food in the supermarket comes from. How many children know how to recognize a living tomato plant after having eaten hundreds of tomatoes through the years? Not one plant in the garden resembles what we serve for dinner.

Gardens are full of wonders and children are by definition curious, so why not bring the two together? Children watching their parents garden will want to do it too. Adults work in the garden to achieve a certain order, a design of plants. The effort is directed to making the garden beautiful.

For the children, it provides an experience of doing things and seeing quick results.

Looking back to my own childhood in the East End of London, we never had a garden. In fact, I never knew anyone who had one. My own interest in plants began when my mother bought me a red geranium in a clay pot from a market stall. I was fascinated how this plant kept flowering all summer with just a little water. Just as winter arrived, she would place the geranium in the bottom of a cupboard and forget about it until springtime, and then the whole cycle would start over. The plant was retrieved from the cupboard and I began watering it. Within a few weeks, it was putting out new leaves and flowers. The fascination was indescribable. Humble beginnings.

Any adult who spends time in the garden can find himself drawn back to his own childhood. There are many wonders and new things to be discovered. It is delightful to see the look of excitement on a child's face when he discovers the seeds he put in the ground are turning into a sunflower, radish or carrot. We can all become kids again.

Children question what we simply accept. Why are you pulling up that plant when it took so long to grow? How do seeds grow and know what to grow into and why do plants die? You have to teach them to tell the difference between weeds and more desirable plants. Although it is never too late to get a child started in gardening, the earlier the better. Even four-year-olds can hold tools, imitate what you do and follow simple directions. Generally, the hardest part of gardening for children is the patience it requires. If the plants take too long to mature you can end up with frustration and a complete lack of interest.

My own children were introduced to gardening at an early age. We grew tomato plants from seeds. Unfortunately they did not grow fast enough. The kids lost interest very quickly. Not to be beaten, I decided to get up early one morning and take out a few lovely red tomatoes, which I tied to the vine with invisible cotton. I can still see the excitement when they discovered them, and they have been hooked on gardening ever since.

For starters, it's best to use quick-germinating vegetables. Radishes germinate quickly and are ready to harvest after 28 to 30 days. Children prefer brightly colored vegetables like tomatoes, strawberries and carrots. Most prefer vegetable gardening to begin with. While you can share your own garden, you both will probably be happier if the child has a patch to call his or her own. In the beginning, it is best to limit the work sessions to 10 or 15 minutes, trying to do as many jobs as possible to keep interest going. Short, varied jobs hold the child's interest. Keep the patch small so it will be easier to finish most jobs that have been started. Adults often love the solitude of gardening but kids more often want company. So why not invite their friends to help out?

One word of advice is never to think of the children as free labor or give them a task beyond their ability or level of patience. Instead of interesting them, we are more likely to give them a lifelong aversion to gardening.

If your child is very young, it is best to buy bulbs. Young children do not always have a sense of space. They do not realize a small sunflower seed is capable of growing into a plant of three meters. Annuals' seeds are amiable and put no strain on the pocket. They are colorful and fast-growing. Annuals like sunflower, zinnia, marigold, cosmos, petunia and morning glories are all ideal for beginners. If you have no space to garden, it is possible to raise a few seedlings on a window ledge.

Batsheva Mink is curator of the Jerusalem Botanical Gardens, Hebrew University, Givat Ram.

TIP OF THE WEEK

Quite a few fruit pits and stones can be planted to produce interesting small trees at no cost. The following is a list of pits that can be grown in pots: date stone, lemon, avocado, orange, tangerine, apricot and plum. Another piece of fruit, which can yield a nice plant, is a pineapple. Cut off its top, place it into a very shallow saucer of water. Top it up when needed. When it produces roots, it can be potted up in clean potting mix and placed in a warm, sheltered position.

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Look what the cat dragged in

Heads 'N' Tails

By D'vora Ben Shaul

A reader has written in about her two-year-old spayed female cat who, despite a steady and adequate diet of meat, fish and chicken, hunts birds – and everything else – whenever she is outside.

The cat's owners have tried everything from feeding her just before she goes out to a bell to warn the birds. But, but no matter what they do, they are faced daily with mangled songbirds that the cat doesn't usually even eat. The situation is so bad that they have removed the bird bath.

The cat also seems to hunt just about everything that crawls, walks or flutters and brings a daily supply of mice, shrews, mole crickets, toads, lizards and even moles in from the garden. The owner is happy that the cat has not brought her a snake yet!

She wanted to know how one can discourage this rampant hunting.

This is a real problem and I am afraid that I have no answer to it.

Recent genetic studies have confirmed what many zoologists have long suspected – that the hunting instinct in cats is a completely inherited characteristic and a cat with strong hunting instincts cannot be taught to desist.

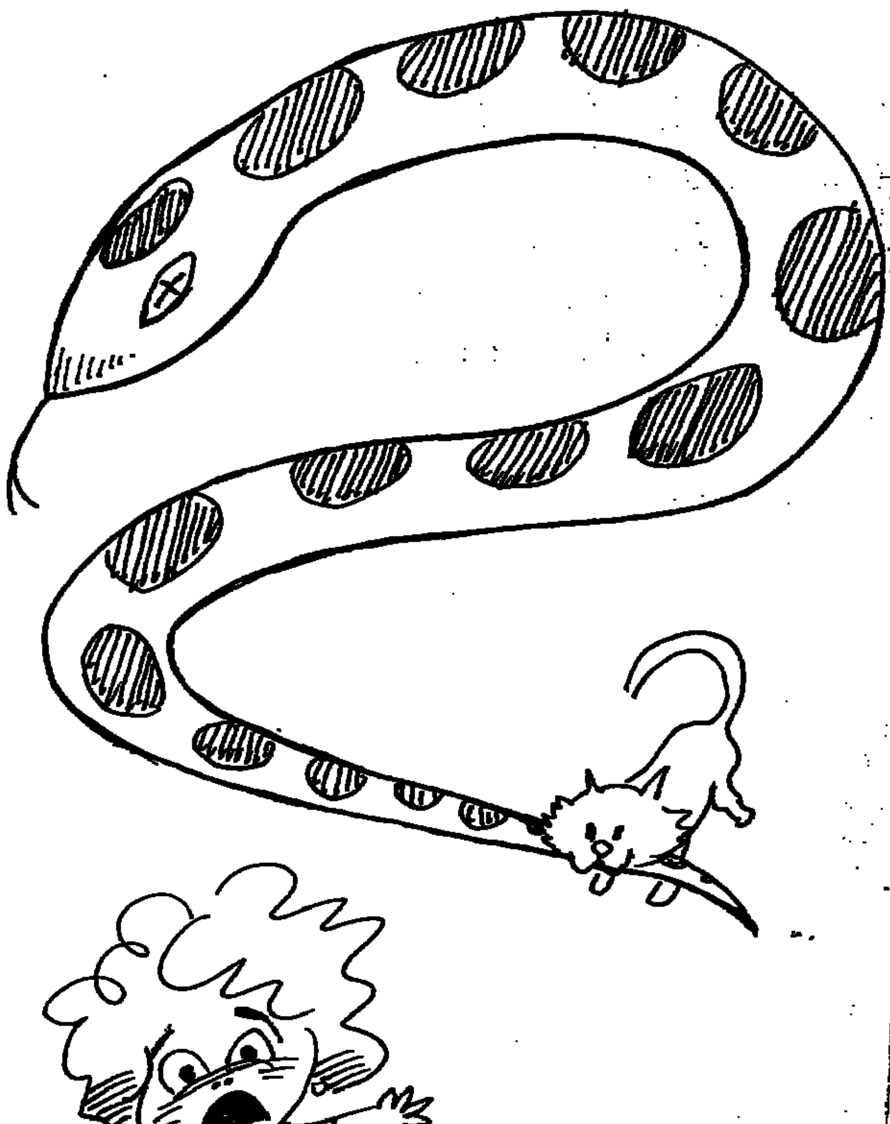
The hunting has nothing to do with hunger and people who starve their cats to make them catch mice are simply wasting their energy and causing their cat a lot of suffering. Either a cat is going to hunt or it is not and I'm afraid there's not much you can do about it.

A good hunter will hunt all of the things mentioned above and then some.

Incidentally, we have no moles in Israel. Moles are insect eaters and live in Europe and America. We have mole rats that pretty much fill the same ecological niche, burrowing underground and casting up hills of earth. But they are eaters of roots and bulbs only.

You may find that you have the wrong cat for your lifestyle. Perhaps you need an indoor cat, or one devoid of hunting characteristics.

The hunting cat would be a great asset to anyone who specifically wanted a good mouser and ratter. I know this advice isn't worth a lot to our reader but there are some things in nature that we simply cannot control.



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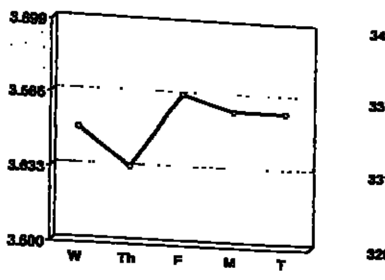

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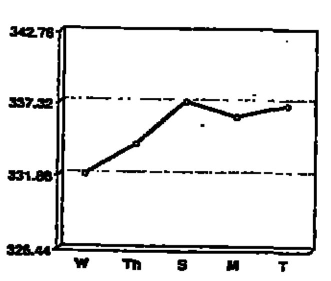

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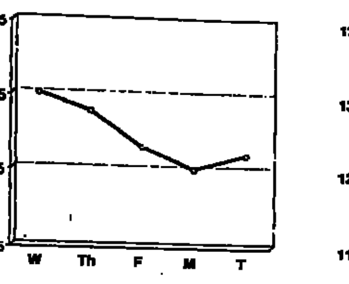
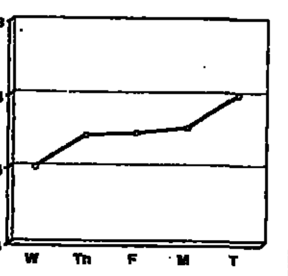


OIL
$ per barrel of brent crude



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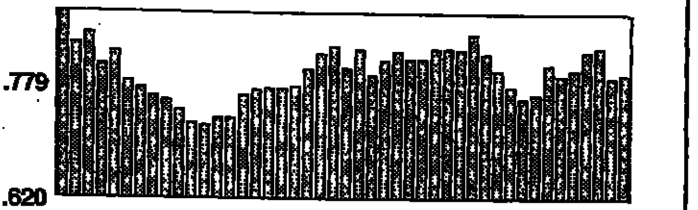

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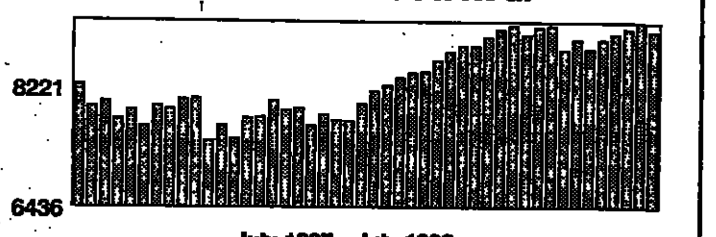


July 1997 - July 1998

Tadiran Telecom sets up new Polish subsidiary

Tadiran Telecommunications yesterday said it has set up a subsidiary called Tadipol in Poland, which will provide telecommunications solutions to local phone providers. Tadiran has already been active in Poland for the last several years and received orders worth $13 million in the first half of the year for wireless and access systems. The company decided to open the subsidiary following the growth and deregulation of the Polish market. *Dan Gerstenfeld*

BATM's founder sells his holdings for $26m.

Gershon Beres, former chairman and co-founder of BATM Advanced Communications this week sold his 36.9 percent holdings in the Rosh Ha'ayin based company for $26 million. British businessman David Goldman, who replaced Beres as the company's chairman, acquired a 19.3% stake raising his holdings to 19.7%. The sale was managed by Shore Capital Group, a London-based investment banking group which is partly held by Bank Leumi. BATM, a developer and manufacturer of data communications equipment, is listed on the AIM market in London and is currently capitalized at some $89m. *Dan Gerstenfeld*

In wake of new unemployment high

Treasury officials urge Neeman to increase budget

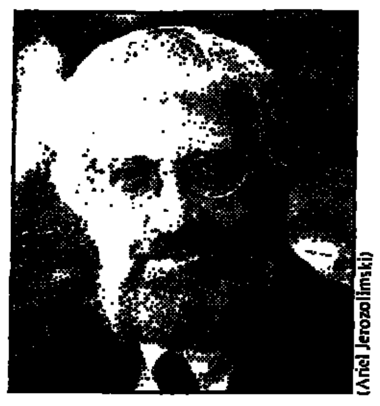
By LIAT COLLINS
and DAVID HARRIS

(Brian Hendler)

Silvan Shalom

(Israel Sun)

Moshe Leon


(Ariel Jerozolimski)

Ben-Zion Zilberfarb

Senior Treasury officials yesterday renewed their request that Finance Minister Yaakov Neeman breach the 1999 state budget deficit target in order to restore economic growth and reduce unemployment, according to a Finance Ministry source.

Meanwhile, both the Prime Minister's Office and Neeman's confidantes moved yesterday to dismiss claims that Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu plans to remove Neeman from his job.

There was media speculation yesterday, following last week's reports that Neeman was about to resign, that he is about to be replaced by newly appointed Science Minister Silvan Shalom.

Prime Minister's Office Director-General Moshe Leon rejected this idea outright.

"There is no intention to do so," Leon said. "We've not spoken about this or discussed it within the Prime Minister's Office and the prime minister is lending his full support to the finance minister, who has a very tough job in distributing a smaller budget between all the ministries."

Neeman said as long as there are good relations between him and Netanyahu he will continue in his present job.

The first Shalom knew of the possibility of his appointment as finance minister was when he opened up yesterday's newspapers, he said.

"First of all, I read it like everyone else," he said. "No one has spoken to me about it, although over the last two or three weeks journalists have asked me if I know something about it and told me there were rumors."

Back in the Treasury, a series of meetings was held yesterday prior to the next discussion on the state budget between Netanyahu and Neeman, which has still to be scheduled. In the ongoing discussions between Neeman and his senior officials there is disagreement as to how large a cut should be made to the 1999 budget. The Budget Deficit Law demands the deficit stand at no higher than two percent of the gross domestic product (GDP). That would require an NIS 2 billion cut in expenditures, leaving an overall budget of some NIS 215b.

Neeman is urging that this target be achieved, as part of the government's commitment to achieve a deficit at 1.5% of GDP by 2001. However, several of his senior officials are calling on him to only cut the deficit by NIS 1b., leaving the deficit at 2.2% of GDP, according to the ministry source.

This pressure was intensified yesterday, following the Central Bureau of Statistics statement on Monday that unemployment rose to 9.3% in May.

Shalom said yesterday that the combined effect of the central bank's tight monetary policy and a series of drastic budget cuts during the Netanyahu era have led to the increase in unemployment. In his opinion, the less money the Treasury releases for the public's use, the less demand there is for goods and services and consequently factories are forced to make job cuts. At the same time, with interest rates so high, it is not financially worthwhile for investors to borrow money in order to open new enterprises.

"Their money can yield more sitting in accounts," he said.

Despite the unemployment figures, Leon said he remains convinced the worst of the slowdown is now in the past.

"We've passed the hard part and we're now [moving] in a positive direction," he said. "I hope that already in the second half of 1998 we'll see signs of a reawakening [in the economy]."

Leon made this comment just days after Treasury Director-General Ben-Zion Zilberfarb said economic growth will only really begin next year, with the economy only reaching its full potential by 2000. This difference of opinion is reminiscent of that witnessed a year ago, when Netanyahu rejected the Treasury's economic forecasts for 1998 as being too pessimistic.

Industry and Trade Minister Natan Sharansky is scheduled to hold a media conference this morning, during which he is expected to outline his demands for next year's budget. Last year, his Yisrael Ba'aliya Party threatened to bring down the government if its funding requests, particularly those regarding housing, were not met.

Nissho tapped to build $300m. Dead Sea-Akaba railway

By DAVID HARRIS

The Jordanian government has asked Japanese trading company Nissho Iwai Corporation to construct a $300 million freight railroad from the Dead Sea to the Gulf of Akaba, according to a source familiar with the deal.

The Japanese company will head a consortium, which will also include the Israel Land Development Corp. and US-based Wheeling & Lake Erie. The consortium hopes to gain much of its funding in the form of grants from Japan, Europe and the US including the World Bank. The three have already conducted a $100,000 private feasibility study with the blessing of both Israel and Jordan.

The original idea was for the railway to be constructed on both sides of the border between Israel and Jordan, but given Amman's commitment to allow the Nissho group to build the line, the vast majority of the route will be on Jordanian soil.

The source explained that the National Infrastructure Ministry here said if the major part of the route is in Jordan, then there will be no need to issue a tender for construction on Israeli territory. In this scenario, Nissho will only require planning permission for the Israeli section of the line. The planning authorities have already given their tacit approval. Jordan's tender regulations are less stringent than those in Israel and the source explained Nissho has been told it will be formally offered the contract in the near future.

The key user of the line will be the Arab Potash Co., which will export its Dead Sea products via Akaba. As part of the deal, Israeli chemicals will also leave the country this way.

Levy placed on plywood imports

By DAN GERSTENFELD

Industry and Trade Minister Natan Sharansky has signed a temporary decree placing a levy on plywood imports from countries that do not have trade agreements with Israel, the ministry said this week.

Ohad Orenstean, head of the ministry's chemical division, said the step was taken to prevent the local industry from collapsing. Three of the country's six largest plywood producers ceased operations recently, including Kelet Afikim, which is currently in receivership.

Under the decree, a levy of NIS 140 per cubic meter, equivalent to about 10 percent of the price, would be placed on plywood imports.

The ministry said the financial crisis in Asia led to a sharp decline in prices and the government feared that the exposure of the local industry to competition now might lead to the closure of more factories.

Orenstean estimated that prices of plywood imports from Asia dropped some 35 percent during the last 12 months.

Sharansky said the measure was taken because the ministry believes this is only a temporary crisis and therefore the local producers need protection to survive and reorganize. The ministry added that since it is only temporary it does not stand in contrast to the policy of exposing the local industry to foreign imports.

The levy of NIS 140 will be in force for half a year. A NIS 70 levy will then be imposed for the next 6 months, and on June 1999 the levy is to be revoked.

Orenstean said the measure will have limited impact as the ministry intends to lower taxes in September as part of policy of exposing the local market to foreign competition.

The use of such measures has been limited in the past. It has been used mainly to block agricultural imports and, for the last several years, has not been used for industrial goods.

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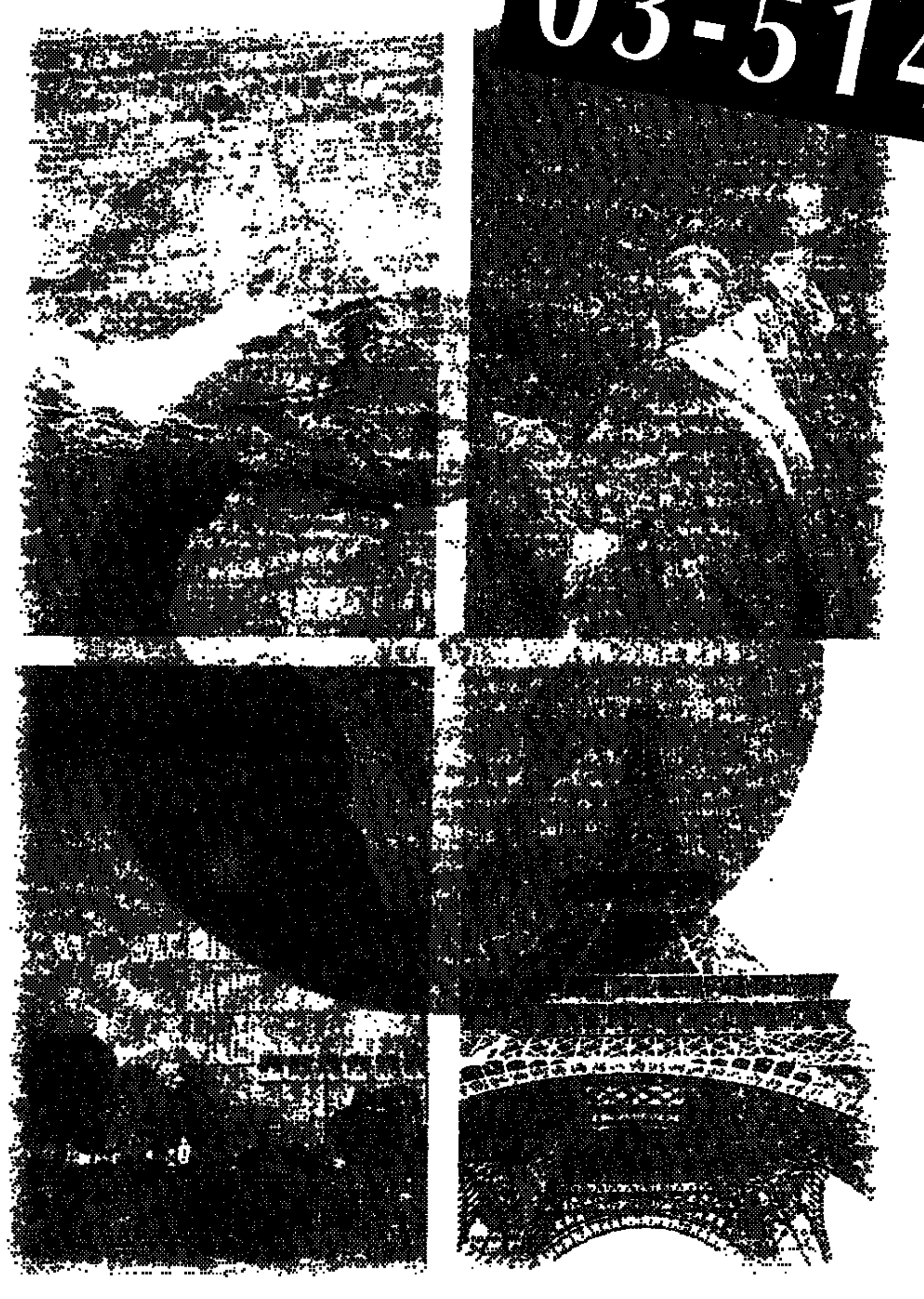

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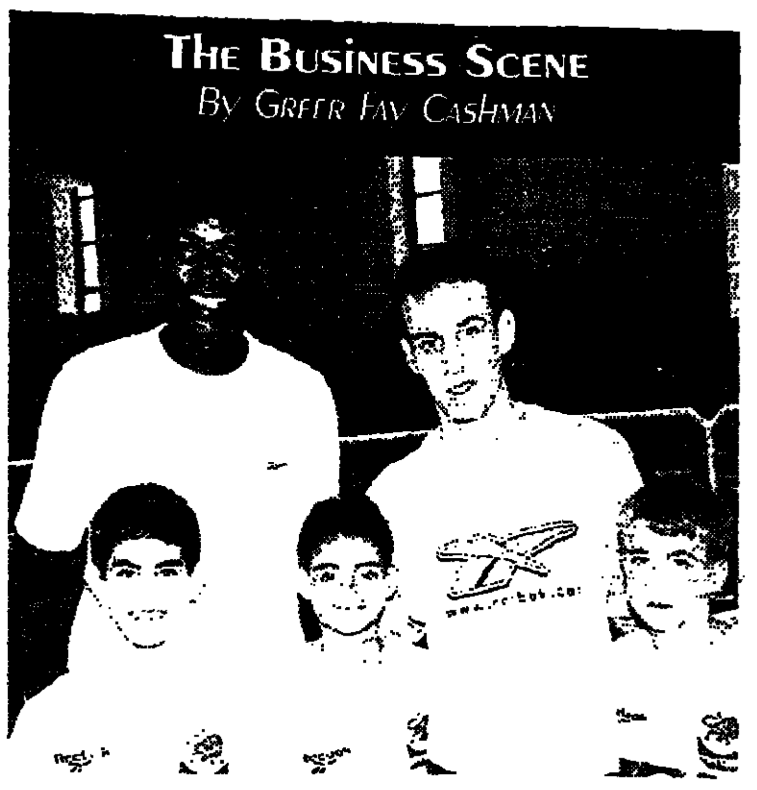
THE BUSINESS SCENE
By GREER FAY CASHMAN



When he's not dishing out burgers at his Burger Ranch franchise, former basketball champ **Aulcie Perry** *(left)* is coaching would-be hoopsters at Wingate Summer School. Current basketball celebrity **Oded Katash** *(right)* stopped by to shoot a few baskets and pose for photos with some of his fans. The summer camp, which is also attended by children from abroad, is co-sponsored by Burger Ranch, Reebok and Coca Cola.

Michal Arbel, 53, is the new director-general of Educational Television. Arbel, who previously headed ETV's production department, won her new post after responding to the Civil Service Commission's call for tenders for the position. A Bar-Ilan University humanities graduate, Arbel replaces **Ruhama Katzir**, who heads the Education Ministry's Central District, and who took the job on a temporary basis until a permanent appointment could be made.

Husband and wife hotel management team **Amnon** and **Etti (Segev) Kriczewski** are playing musical chairs within the Atlas chain's facilities. She has just bee appointed general manager of the Tel Aviv City Hotel, previously managed by her husband. Both are Tadmor Hotel School graduates. He has moved on to manage the Atlas chain's Tal Hotel in Tel Aviv. Previously she was functions manager and also responsible for food and beverages at the Carlton Hotel, Tel Aviv.

Michael Aronson, 45, has been appointed general manager of Regba Kitchens.

Moving from milk to vegetables, **Alma Cohen Shahar**, 33, has taken over as marketing manager at Sunfrost. She previously headed the Emmi Yogurt division at Tnuva. Her appointment is within the framework of Sunfrost's reorganization strategy.

Tax Commissioner **Doron Levy** recently discussed taxation policy and the impending taxation reforms to be implemented by the Treasury with senior executives of the Israel Manufacturers Association.

Ezra Ram has been named Lannet's technical manager for Asia, the Middle East and Africa. An engineer by profession, Ram has amassed a great deal of experience and expertise in communications technology and planning communications networks for international clientele. His appointment is in line with Lannet's global expansion policy.

Lilach Sandlon has been appointed research executive at the Institute for Marketing Data. Sandlon, 27, is currently completing a master's degree in public polling at Tel Aviv University.

New appointments in the Holiday Inn hotel chain include **Itzik Evron**, who has been named general manager of the soon-to-be-opened Holiday Inn, Ashkelon; **Ilan Levy** as deputy manager of the Crown Plaza, the Dead Sea; and **Luba Mizrahi** as head of sales promotion to the Russian market.

Fund holders: Don't panic

If falling stock prices send mutual-fund shareholders rushing for the exits en masse, the Dow Jones industrial average could plummet as much as 5,000 points

Ways of Wall Street

By JAMES K. GLASSMAN

The most common disaster scenarios for the New York stock market go like this: First, share prices start to fall after the Federal Reserve raises interest rates, or a report suddenly indicates inflation is back, or a big German bank fails, or Microsoft Corp. shows a loss for the quarter or ... well, you name it.

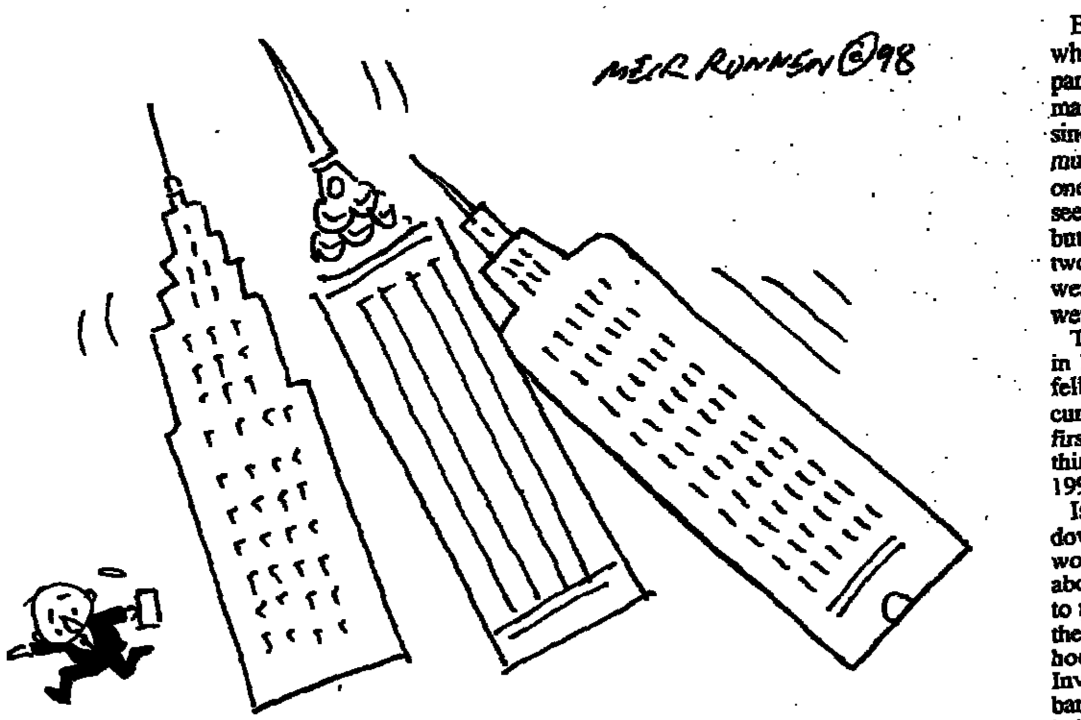
Then, as stocks keep dropping over three or four weeks, shareholders in mutual funds – most of whom have never seen this sort of thing before – decide to head for the exits. They start redeeming their shares – asking fund companies to turn them into cash, which will go into certificate of deposits or under the mattress.

In order to raise cash to redeem shares, the funds have to sell stock – their cash reserves are low – and the crescendo gets deafening. When the dust clears, the Dow Jones industrial average is down, oh, about 5,000 points.

A critical element in this scenario is the behavior of mutual-fund shareholders. If they sit tight – or buy at the cheaper prices – then the stampede won't occur, and the market will merely suffer a correction of 10 percent or so. But if they panic, it will be a bloody mess.

So will investors cut and run? A new study by the Investment Company Institute (ICI) indicates they won't. It is reasonable to view the research skeptically because the ICI is the trade association for the mutual-fund industry, and it might be seen as having a vested interest in promoting calm. Still, the ICI's numbers are sound.

But will the conclusions of the study, which looked at only a small mutual-fund sector, apply in a widespread market decline? There is certainly some doubt, which raises another question: Is there any shelter from a rolling debacle? We'll get to the answers below, but first let's look at the study.



Mitchell A. Post and Kimberlee Millar of the ICI wanted to find out how investors reacted to the steep decline in the prices of emerging markets mutual funds. Asian markets fell 23% between last July and September, and another 31% between October and December.

Emerging markets overall fell 9%, and then 20% in the two periods.

But the researchers found "shareholders in US emerging market funds reacted calmly." They started withdrawing small amounts in late 1996. "After the crisis started in early July 1997, shareholders stepped up somewhat the pace of withdrawals, which continued for the remainder of the year.... However, outflows from funds that invest primarily in Asia and Latin America were small relative to the magnitude of the drops in prices of shares during the crisis."

Outflows of cash from general emerging-markets funds peaked at 2.5% of assets in December 1997. The peak for Asian funds was 4.8% in July, and for Latin American funds, 4.1% in October – "despite," write the authors, "a price decline of almost 19%."

Figures provided to me by Robert Adler, president of AMG Data Services in Arcata, Calif., appear to confirm the ICI's conclusions.

Investors started pulling out of emerging markets funds in March and April and then again in July through the end of 1997, the AMG numbers show, but the retreat was orderly compared with the devastation to the prices of the Asian and Latin stocks.

These findings – that fund holders don't panic – back up two earlier ICI studies. In 1995, researchers looked at redemptions at bond funds during the spring of 1994, when interest rates jumped and bond prices fell sharply.

But, again, investors did not panic. Outflows for bond funds in the worst months – March and April 1994 – were 3.2%. Liquid assets (that is, cash) at the bond funds were "sufficient to meet the outflows without requiring liquidation of long-term securities," wrote the study's authors.

The researchers also looked at the effects of the Orange County bankruptcy of December 1994 on shareholders in California tax-exempt bond and money-market funds, of the December 1994 peso devaluation on emerging-markets-fund shareholders, and of 1994 derivatives losses on money-market fund shareholders.

"Although the effects of the events in 1994 were clearly evident in shareholder investment activity, none produced a bank-like run on mutual funds," concluded the authors. In other words, investors did indeed sell when these catastrophes occurred; on balance, they did not have the courage to buy with both fists. But they did not run scared, causing the snowball effect that analysts still fear.

The third, much broader study, in 1995, examined market downturns over a 50-year period starting in 1944. The conclusion: "In none of the stock-market breaks and sharp declines in equity prices have stock fund owners liquidated shares en masse."

What about the Oct. 29, 1987, crash, when the Dow dropped 23% in a single day?

That break, too, "failed to trigger substantial outflows from stock funds," wrote John Rea and Richard Marcis. "An estimated 4.5% of stock fund assets were redeemed over the last half of October, and the outflow moderated substantially thereafter. Moreover, only 5 percent of stock fund owners liquidated shares in the six weeks after the break." Still, it is disconcerting that the clear pattern among investors is to sell when fund prices fall and buy when they rise. But that behavior might be changing through experience and education.

"Most of the evidence of recent years," said Alan Greenspan, the Fed chairman, in testimony before a House committee last week, "is that people who have built up 401(k)'s and other forms of investment and have become quite familiar with the stock market have been the ones who have been buying on the declines and indeed have turned out to be prescient and wealthier."

But it remains an open question whether fund shareholders will panic in a truly miserable bear market. We really haven't had one since the advent of the modern mutual fund. Since 1926, roughly one out of every four years has seen a decline in the stock market, but, since 1977 we have had only two losers – 1981, where returns were -4.9%, and 1990, when they were -3.2%.

The last painful bear market was in 1973-74, when large-cap stocks fell more than 40%. Only 17% of current shareholders bought their first fund before 1980, and one-third bought their first fund in the 1990s.

Is there shelter against a meltdown such as I have described? I would not be entirely sanguine about the ability of fund managers to meet redemptions with the cash they have on hand. Some fund houses, including Fidelity Investments, have arranged for bank lines of credit to pay shareholders, but it is likely that in a meltdown, hundreds of managers will be rushing to liquidate their holdings, selling General Electric Co. and Intel Corp. for whatever they get.

A safe harbor? One possibility is to invest in closed-end equity funds, which trade just as if they were stocks. With closed-ends, there are no redemptions. If you want to sell, you find a buyer through the New York Stock Exchange rather than going to the fund to get your money back. This means closed-end managers don't have to raise cash in a debacle; instead, if they have the guts, they can spend their money buying shares at bargain prices.

A recent analysis by Morgan Stanley Dean Witter gave "strong buy" ratings to four domestic closed-ends: General American Investors, with a three-year average annual return of 33.5%, compared with 31.1% for the Standard & Poor's 500-stock index; Salmon Brothers Fund, with a three-year return of 33.8% but higher risk; Petroleum and Resources Corp., an energy fund with a superb track record; and John Hancock Bank and Thrift Opportunity, which is down 18% this year but gained 101% in 1997.

All four of these funds trade at discounts to their net asset value, or what all the stocks in their portfolios would be worth if they were cashed in at market prices. So, in theory at least, they are bargains.

(Washington Post)

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MUTUAL FUNDS

FLEXIBLE

Fund's name	unit cost	redemption price	monthly yield (%)	yield 1998 (%)	NIS assets (millions)
Abir	232.12	231.42	+ 0.26	+5.07	19.5
Adar Flexible	108.22	106.89	- 0.32	+6.33	27.7
Afikim Flexible	205.83	203.19	- 1.64	-1.46	19.8
Ahrayut Flexible	529.66	520.33	- 1.09	+3.69	2.8
Alomot Flexible	111.18	109.28	+ 1.12	—	12.2
Analyst Deversified	794.96	776.53	+ 0.70	+7.32	69.3
Apex Flexible	186.52	185.83	- 1.05	+ 19.81	39.4
Arximedes	108.25	106.21	- 0.77	+ 13.22	0.9
Avuka	2019.08	2012.72	- 0.03	+5.87	5.7
Bloch Rotstein Flexible	237.35	232.50	- 1.47	+ 12.49	36.4
Clali Flexible	1201.06	1197.37	+ 1.24	+4.62	4.9
Dikla Mamon	280.72	278.59	- 2.31	+5.67	27.0
Dikla Merav	190.63	189.81	- 2.68	+5.59	12.0
Dikla Moked	3548.11	3522.33	- 0.42	+5.51	79.4
Dovrat Shrem Flexible	172.91	169.28	- 0.29	-4.89	34.6
Emda Idit	4258.58	4213.85	- 0.03	+6.64	33.3
Epsilon Flexible	176.14	175.51	+ 0.71	+ 12.93	12.8
Evergreen Flexible	125.09	124.05	- 1.39	+2.01	9.5
Excellence Flexible	3248.99	3205.08	- 0.23	+ 10.82	8.4
Igud Bonds	104.29	103.80	+ 0.77	-0.43	6.3
Igud Flexible	172.26	171.10	+ 1.66	+6.47	21.1
Igud Shiklit	140.82	140.68	+ 0.64	+7.83	332.3
Ilanot 30 Plus	156.76	155.95	- 0.19	+1.90	3.7
Ilanot 90	271.83	270.35	+ 0.34	+7.78	26.9
Ilanot Tidhar	3497.74	3488.90	+ 0.23	+7.95	78.3
Kivun Flexible	126.60	125.42	- 1.79	+3.77	6.0
Lahak Duhifat	801.30	787.06	+ 0.70	+7.38	75.2
Lamashkia	—	—	—	—	5.9
Lapid	1695.88	1695.88	+ 0.23	+5.68	6.1
Maofim Bonds	103.88	102.91	+ 0.52	—	6.2
Maofim Flexible	162.04	159.11	- 1.22	+ 15.77	14.5
Maritime Flexible Fund	105.16	103.19	- 0.62	+ 14.00	13.2
Meitav Flexible	172.01	170.19	+ 0.43	+9.10	3.2
Models Flexible	116.64	114.26	+ 1.25	+3.00	9.8
Models Teuza	105.34	103.14	+ 2.87	+8.90	4.6
Moritz Money Market	141.38	141.38	+ 0.65	+7.22	16.4
Nesua Flexible	2780.29	2742.71	+ 0.26	+6.73	11.3
Netz	123.38	122.22	- 4.94	-0.18	0.4
Noga	925.19	913.57	+ 1.03	+7.13	45.9
Omer Pekan	206.53	202.78	- 0.38	+0.26	23.0
Otzar Flexible	107.43	105.58	- 0.33	+6.28	4.8
Pia Hayovel	245.89	244.65	+ 2.87	+ 22.28	39.3
Pia Kela	989.47	984.54	+ 1.01	+9.49	318.8
Psagot Gamish	622.17	611.13	- 1.44	+8.01	156.0
Psagot Megama	369.79	367.80	- 1.12	+ 10.22	88.7
Quantum	100.14	98.87	- 6.92	-2.42	0.2
Ramco Flexible	180.33	178.34	- 0.13	+5.91	6.6
Saar Flexible	234.17	231.19	- 1.81	+6.48	4.8
Seer Pekan	210.05	209.43	+ 1.06	+9.19	205.7
Sigma Flexible	109.11	107.95	- 0.09	+8.12	9.6
Sivan	308.54	304.57	+ 0.97	+ 16.84	83.6
Telescope	122.85	122.43	+ 0.39	-2.79	2.0
Yaad Flexible	107.70	106.63	- 0.02	+6.88	5.3
Yesodot	3254.18	3196.80	+ 0.22	+5.73	37.2
Zeller Flexible	90.83	89.79	- 0.68	-3.42	4.4
Zion Flexible	17564.05	17502.40	+ 2.29	+ 24.10	13.8

SHARES

Fund's name	unit cost	redemption price	monthly yield (%)	yield 1998 (%)	NIS assets (millions)
Adif Pekan	124.00	121.81	- 0.86	+8.00	46.1
Afikim Shares	286.87	283.19	- 2.67	+2.08	17.0
Ahrayut Oil & Shares	134.43	131.73	- 4.34	- 14.53	1.6
Ahrayut Real Estate	227.71	223.14	- 0.98	+1.11	7.9
Ahrayut Shares	345.72	339.59	- 1.38	+3.28	4.0
Alomot Growth	101.96	101.70	—	—	0.0
Analyst Aggressive	163.12	159.35	- 1.02	+6.87	54.3
Analyst Equity	1312.88	1282.39	+ 0.05	+ 10.37	156.2
Analyst Industries	406.06	396.64	+ 0.15	+9.72	60.8
Apex Shares	119.81	119.29	- 1.77	+ 19.68	16.6
Atlas Pekan	—	—	—	—	34.5
Baron	231.11	230.37	- 0.05	+6.87	14.4
Bloch Rotstein Shares	123.17	120.73	- 0.88	+ 20.91	16.5
Capital Shares	104.24	102.94	+ 3.17	+ 12.85	4.1
Chemical Pekan	126.64	124.41	+ 0.32	+6.08	7.2
Clali Maof	267.00	266.20	+ 0.95	+8.46	28.7
Clali Shares & Conv.	163.39	162.89	+ 1.29	+9.84	2.5
Dikla Maagal	108.49	107.64	- 3.30	-4.18	14.8
Dikla Madad Maof	228.36	227.14	+ 1.06	+9.35	79.2
Dikla Meretz	578.67	574.30	+ 0.13	+9.74	81.0
Dikla Mitan	117.21	116.30	- 5.77	-4.52	45.2
Dikla Migzar Finance	137.88	136.83	- 1.47	+9.53	40.2
Dikla Mikud 30	75.24	74.87	- 1.56	+2.84	42.0
Dikla Mivneh	358.15	355.31	- 1.88	-0.42	27.4
Dikla Mondial	—	—	—	—	18.4
Dikla Mor	1651.89	1649.18	- 0.52	+5.84	96.9
Dovrat Shrem 100	114.98	112.63	+ 0.20	+2.88	18.9
Dovrat Shrem Yeter	127.57	124.97	- 0.71	+0.26	14.3
Emda Export	92.43	91.49	+ 0.30	+8.17	10.8
Emda High Tech	—	—	—	—	10.6
Emda Maof	237.87	236.05	+ 1.07	+9.43	44.0
Emda Paz	198.13	196.06	- 0.42	+8.01	12.7
Emda Shalhevet	179.11	177.78	- 0.50	+ 10.86	16.0
Emda T-A 100	2191.56	2168.29	- 0.00	+7.91	56.7
Emda Yeter	1707.51	1689.42	- 0.34	+2.26	24.7
Epsilon 36	120.20	119.76	+ 0.21	+ 18.54	37.1
Epsilon Shares	207.45	206.66	- 0.05	+ 12.59	18.6
Epsilon Technologies	—	—	—	—	9.6
Erez Pekan	368.65	367.47	+ 0.47	+ 11.44	168.2
Esh	630.68	618.58	+ 0.56	+2.90	2.4
Evergreen High Tech	—	—	—	—	14.0
Evergreen Shares	167.86	166.45	- 1.20	+3.88	20.1
Excellence Agresive	274.75	271.68	- 1.86	+ 14.00	9.8
Excellence Shares	684.15	680.26	- 0.75	+ 18.63	8.3
Eyal Shares	149.16	149.16	+ 0.30	+ 10.77	7.6
Gal	128.88	127.22	+ 1.38	+ 11.11	18.2
Hon Pekan	119.98	117.87	- 1.53	+5.93	70.6
Igud Maof	104.81	104.31	+ 0.83	+9.78	11.0
Igud Shares	154.85	153.87	+ 0.26	+4.94	11.0
Igud Yeter	110.15	109.52	- 0.88	+1.05	12.4
Ilanot Caramim	176.91	175.97	+ 0.70	+6.18	91.6
Ilanot Communication	121.07	120.40	+ 3.14	+ 11.45	68.5
Ilanot Dekel	3420.35	3402.48	+ 0.28	+8.61	107.2
Ilanot Finance	102.62	102.06	- 2.81	+7.77	17.5
Ilanot Globe	—	—	—	—	13.6
Ilanot Maof	225.53	224.45	+ 0.94	+9.78	65.8
Ilanot Nadlan	1533.55	1525.43	+ 0.29	—	33.5
Ilanot Nimrezet	89.44	88.93	- 0.27	+3.85	6.5
Ilanot Shares	5371.42	5343.26	+ 0.29	+6.31	9.8
Ilanot Shchakim	61.39	61.06	- 0.10	+5.51	18.2
Ilanot Shesek	991.58	986.26	+ 0.70	+8.12	125.7
Ilanot T-A 100	3061.66	3045.56	+ 1.04	+9.64	83.0
Israel America	—	—	—	—	1.2
Kohav Pekan	189.02	185.65	+ 0.60	+ 11.80	114.9
Koor Money Market	135.92	135.79	+ 0.72	+9.31	447.2
Koor Shares	100.72	99.49	- 1.78	+7.15	10.0
Lahak Agresivit Plus	93.40	91.77	- 0.09	+4.86	23.2
Lahak Ankor	948.28	924.94	+ 0.04	+9.02	39.2
Lahak Dividends	366.33	365.37	+ 0.89	+ 18.78	98.3
Lahak Menayot 30	102.76	102.75	+ 1.31	—	24.1
Lahak Menayot Yeter	120.58	119.64	- 2.57	+6.25	47.8
Lahak Nadlan	138.73	136.29	- 0.90	+5.75	33.7
Lahak TA-Wall Street	—	—	—	—	21.8
Lahak Tor 100	486.56	477.98	+ 1.36	+ 11.37	87.8
Lahak Yetsu	82.40	82.15	- 0.09	+ 10.40	41.6
Lahak Zamir	899.57	896.78	- 0.23	+ 10.11	70.6
Maale Maof Pekan	204.83	201.03	+ 1.34	+7.30	78.8
Magic	268.80	264.05	- 2.45	+1.22	9.1
Meitav High Tech	—	—	—	—	—
Meitav Options	51.55	50.71	+ 0.20	+ 21.90	14.0
Meitav Shares	222.42	220.05	+ 0.05	+7.68	5.8
Meitav Teuza	121.14	119.81	- 0.45	+9.29	5.9
Mercazit Caram Mariv	69.21	69.01	- 1.05	+4.01	2.8
Mercazit Maof	213.31	212.78	+ 0.79	+8.40	2.4
Mercazit TA 100	280.13	279.28	+ 0.18	+7.12	3.0
Mertingail Dynamic	111.59	111.46	- 0.20	+ 11.63	13.9
Necha Continental	61.12	60.03	- 0.50	+4.75	14.5
Nesua Shares	484.67	481.42	- 0.43	+7.45	8.3
Nili T-A 100	1125.24	1110.74	+ 1.12	+8.90	23.6
Omega	116.22	114.18	- 2.45	-6.52	1.7
Otzar Foreign Int. Par.	157.54	157.54	+ 0.88	+ 11.12	2.3
Otzar Shares	121.32	119.21	- 0.30	+6.98	6.6
Otzar Yeter	87.86	86.33	- 0.01	-1.47	5.0
Pekan T-A 100	174.54	174.04	+ 0.92	+8.01	65.8
Pia 2000	98.07	96.33	- 2.89	+5.41	24.2
Pia Bdolach T-A 100	1114.38	1094.69	+ 0.50	+9.74	94.2
Pia Manof	148.61	145.93	- 0.38	+ 12.77	47.4
Pia Maof	218.17	214.32	+ 0.72	+9.48	103.9
Pia Michlol	884.34	868.92	+ 1.23	+ 11.80	134.2
Pia Odem	1367.50	1360.04	+ 0.85	+ 15.52	176.5
Pia Olamit	—	—	—	—	35.4
Pia Yahalom	1198.71	1177.53	- 0.29	+ 13.47	72.3
Pia Zinuk	70.53	69.29	- 0.89	+ 10.92	41.5
Pritza	—	—	—	—	0.6
Psagot 20	95.69	93.99	- 0.60	—	189.9
Psagot Al	92.17	90.52	- 1.98	+6.36	34.7
Psagot Focus	121.19	119.04	- 0.11	+9.99	104.3
Psagot High Tech	—	—	—	—	60.5
Psagot Mabat Lashalom	147.13	144.52	- 0.68	+ 13.30	43.4
Psagot Menayot	930.83	926.67	- 1.30	+ 10.86	183.0
Psagot T-A 100	422.51	420.17	- 0.82	+ 14.99	246.8
Psagot Yeter	202.13	198.53	- 2.30	+7.42	57.5
Raam 90	158.12	155.03	- 0.63	+5.61	6.4
Simodan Shares & Conv.	84.63	83.29	- 0.55	+2.60	0.6
Singer Barnea Financial	126.58	124.35	- 1.33	+ 10.84	0.7
Singer Barnea Shmura	157.91	157.44	- 0.68	+ 10.88	2.3
Tamir Fishman Tsmiha	—	—	—	—	—
Tsuot Sula	164.34	163.42	+ 0.53	+ 13.79	24.8
Ytzar	48.07	47.80	- 1.32	-4.09	0.2
Zik	366.09	365.03	- 0.92	+3.68	3.7
Zion Shares	161.39	160.43	- 0.11	+7.73	3.9
Zion Yeter	97.34	96.98	+ 0.61	+2.54	5.9

STATE BONDS

Fund's name	unit cost	redemption price	monthly yield (%)	yield 1998 (%)	NIS assets (millions)
Ahrayut State Bonds	459.11	453.37	+ 1.06	+3.86	4.5
Almog Pekan	279.13	274.18	+ 1.73	-3.00	107.7
Analyst Government Bonds	404.21	399.02	+ 0.93	+1.82	31.1
Clali Dotan	1262.04	1259.13	+ 1.01	+2.05	4.7
Clali State Bonds	489.70	488.58	+ 1.09	+2.23	8.2
Dikla Marom	6501.38	6453.76	+ 0.72	+5.31	34.1
Dikla Mivtah	1775.53	1762.30	+ 0.77	+5.71	32.6
Ducas	260.10	255.59	+ 0.99	+4.30	14.0
Emda Goverment Bond	1097.43	1088.93	+ 0.95	-0.43	48.9
Emda Leshem	1462.74	1448.45	+ 1.32	-0.05	27.4
Emda Sella	1439.48	1429.04	+ 0.91	+4.93	49.3
Epsilon Gov't Bonds	214.20	213.55	+ 0.45	+7.69	15.3
Geva	420.27	415.15	+ 1.72	+2.98	86.0
Hila Pekan	552.03	552.03	+ 0.87	+3.19	138.7
Ilanot Egoz	1189.41	1183.38	+ 0.76	+4.75	51.1
Ilanot Gov't Bonds	2515.37	2504.84	+ 1.50	+6.48	2.6
Ilanot Tapuah	680.45	677.29	+ 1.46	-0.68	30.2
Ilanot Tapuz	1107.36	1101.87	+ 1.12	+2.86	99.1
Lahak Eitoni	551.12	541.41	+ 1.90	-2.56	33.4
Lahak Shahaf	151.73	149.10	+ 0.92	+4.87	53.1
Lahak Snunit	712.01	699.51	+ 0.79	+4.98	90.8
Maritime Government Bond	162.29	160.04	+ 0.58	+6.68	12.2
Meitav Gov't Bonds	123.13	122.16	+ 1.17	+4.08	9.6
Mekorit Pekan	119.85	117.74	+ 1.75	+0.26	16.0
Mercazit Gov't Bonds	159.96	158.80	+ 0.57	+3.55	6.4
Nesua Gov't Bonds	1425.79	1419.00	+ 0.64	+7.14	37.8
Otzar Gov't Bonds	166.16	163.46	+ 1.20	+2.49	13.6
Pia Conv' Bonds 50	250.16	248.81	+ 3.23	—	22.6
Pia Tarshish	141.59	139.11	+ 1.42	+2.73	242.1
Pia Zamid	4855.94	4770.29	+ 1.38	+2.52	153.8
Psagot Agach	610.69	599.92	+ 0.64	+7.17	50.1
Psagot Maala	446.89	443.35	+ 1.25	+4.30	52.3
Psagot Madad	575.43	565.24	+ 2.06	+2.39	81.2
Shavit Pekan	730.88	717.96	+ 1.00	+3.65	136.7
Sigma Gov't Bonds	139.80	138.06	+ 1.48	+2.85	1.1
Yaara Pekan	585.22	574.91	+ 1.38	-0.44	59.8
Yevul Pekan	752.65	750.42	+ 1.45	+1.77	148.2
Ziv	627.15	619.21	+ 0.89	+1.92	38.8
Zohar	524.99	518.43	+ 1.03	+3.19	37.5

COMPANY BONDS

Fund's name	unit cost	redemption price	monthly yield (%)	yield 1998 (%)	NIS assets (millions)
Afikim Bonds	319.29	315.29	- 0.80	-4.77	40.0
Ahrayut Bonds	196.79	193.38	+ 1.39	-0.53	5.2
Amirim	131.22	130.25	+ 1.33	+0.56	24.0
Analyst Corporate Bonds	291.40	286.21	+ 0.66	+1.81	91.3
Analyst Money Market	162.31	161.86	+ 0.58	+6.75	15.8
Apex Tsua	146.38	145.86	- 0.46	+9.89	63.9
Bloch Rotstein Bonds	171.54	169.10	+ 0.53	+8.24	14.1
Bond	154.42	153.30	- 0.43	+1.07	10.1
Capital Bonds	159.51	158.38	+ 1.45	+7.16	11.2
Clali Company Debentures	209.96	209.37	+ 1.46	+2.31	2.9
Clali Gen' Bond Rating	103.67	103.37	+ 1.27	—	12.3
Clali Zmina	183.39	183.21	+ 0.60	+7.56	55.8
Dikla Maayan	1000.54	993.11	+ 0.67	+5.05	52.2
Dikla Magen Plus	104.96	104.96	+ 0.73	—	377.8
Dikla Maskoret Plus	149.74	149.74	+ 0.70	+7.62	443.4
Dikla Meimad	466.98	463.30	+ 0.39	+7.08	22.1
Dikla Mirvah	617.86	613.25	+ 0.27	+0.18	24.1
Dikla Mivhar	583.98	579.71	+ 1.06	+3.99	33.6
Dikla Nigvan	2088.90	2073.92	+ 0.56	+4.48	93.1
Dovrat Shrem Bonds	171.81	169.01	+ 1.23	+1.68	58.9
Emda Dynamit Magen	111.12	111.12	+ 0.67	+8.09	56.6
Emda Halamish	165.96	164.37	+ 0.84	+3.96	16.6
Emda Hamara	1141.89	1130.47	+ 1.53	+0.24	47.8
Emda Shiklit	104.82	104.82	+ 0.72	+7.36	766.7
Emda Zuk	336.41	334.74	+ 1.28	-0.44	14.2
Epsilon Corp. Bonds	130.67	130.45	+ 1.00	+4.04	20.3
Epsilon Money Market	155.14	155.06	+ 0.70	+8.99	270.9
Evergreen Shkoola	157.85	156.98	+ 0.12	+2.76	34.5
Excellence Bonds	2169.55	2141.73	+ 1.01	+5.74	13.8
Eyal Corporate Bonds	152.12	151.57	+ 2.20	+0.80	5.0
Eyal Shotef	143.31	143.31	+ 0.72	+8.09	22.3
Guy	737.90	728.78	+ 1.28	+5.49	120.5
Hatz Pekan	621.67	621.67	+ 0.72	+7.28	—
I.B.I Shikalim	152.91	152.91	+ 0.74	+8.01	170.4
Igud Magen Shiklit	104.23	104.12	+ 1.21	—	24.8
Ilanot Agas	455.15	452.93	+ 1.22	+3.07	43.3
Ilanot Alon	2012.09	2002.18	+ 0.92	+3.89	41.1
Ilanot Armon	141.40	140.74	+ 1.28	+2.87	22.1
Ilanot Conv'bonds	3183.93	3167.28	+ 1.80	+1.78	7.0
Ilanot Eshel	807.25	803.32	+ 0.98	+4.85	93.8
Ilanot Etrog	1091.03	1085.30	+ 1.29	+3.06	57.1
Ilanot Muvtahat	111.47	111.47	+ 0.90	+7.19	52.4
Ilanot Oren	4234.39	4213.26	+ 1.08	+4.72	135.3
Ilanot Onon	184.54	183.63	+ 0.76	+5.59	26.1
Ilanot Rimon	578.39	578.39	+ 0.71	+7.54	—
Ilanot Shahar	240.00	238.86	+ 0.99	+2.89	31.9
Ilanot Shaked	235.93	234.82	+ 1.02	+2.85	37.9
Ilanot Shkoola	171.68	170.72	+ 1.02	+4.99	72.3
Keshet Pekan	442.85	434.67	+ 1.75	-1.15	34.4
Koor Amnar Bonds	206.48	206.02	+ 0.84	—	17.1
Lahak Conv. Bonds	240.08	240.08	+ 1.88	+0.33	79.0
Lahak Magen 95%	160.79	160.79	+ 0.66	+6.03	164.2
Lahak Yasoor	192.05	192.05	+ 0.89	+7.10	1940
Malkarit Pekan	337.66	331.74	+ 1.36	+5.68	29.2
Meitav Corp. Conv. Bonds	152.05	150.85	+ 1.19	+3.15	11.0
Meitav Money Market	121.72	121.72	+ 0.85	+7.46	10.2
Mercazit Conv. Bonds	465.06	463.65	+ 0.73	+4.45	3.3
Models Shmura	111.88	110.73	+ 1.37	+2.64	13.4
Nesua Corporate Bonds	186.09	185.10	+ 1.65	+1.74	11.7
Otzar Shikalim	136.48	136.07	+ 0.68	+7.31	111.0
Pia Halifin	550.41	550.41	+ 0.74	+7.47	647.6
Pia Mogenet	109.38	109.38	+ 0.79	+7.17	91.0
Pia Ophir	615.89	612.57	+ 0.84	+4.05	96.5
Pia Or	1164.74	1144.23	+ 1.82	+3.77	108.5
Pia Segula	282.11	277.18	+ 2.06	+4.26	42.8
Pia Shamir	1306.95	1283.89	+ 1.90	-0.76	109.8
Pia Shikalim Adif	107.13	107.13	+ 0.47	+8.59	—
Pia Tnufa	384.43	377.67	+ 2.97	+2.79	26.7
Pia Yozma	232.94	228.83	+ 1.88	-0.78	25.3
Pil	296.27	293.41	+ 0.33	+1.57	4.6
Psagot Hagana Plus	108.86	108.86	+ 0.54	+7.40	123.7
Psagot Kol Rega	238.52	238.52	+ 0.70	+7.92	1590
Psagot Tashlumim	105.45	103.61	+ 1.23	+6.00	29.3
Psagot Yetsira	610.00	606.71	+ 0.89	+4.88	189.4
Simodan Bonds	120.04	117.89	+ 0.03	-4.70	1.4
Simodan Interest	147.41	147.41	+ 0.70	+8.37	20.0
Tsuot Hen	174.79	173.94	+ 1.53	+3.75	26.2
Zeller Conv. Bonds	114.14	113.46	- 3.08	- 16.58	2.0
Zion Bonds	1995.04	1983.93	+ 1.81	+0.91	6.0
Zion Gov't Bonds	113.22	112.96	+ 1.81	+8.40	3.6

FOREIGN CURRENCY

Fund's name	unit cost	redemption price	monthly yield (%)	yield 1998 (%)	NIS assets (millions)
Afikim Foreign	—	—	—	—	26.0
Alomot Foreign Currency	—	—	—	—	0.0
Analyst Europe	—	—	—	—	26.4
Capital Foreign	—	—	—	—	2.5
Dikla Meged	997.54	989.80	- 0.09	+6.18	41.0
Dollar	—	—	—	—	8.0
Emda Tevel	—	—	—	—	52.6
Igud Foreign Currency	100.96	100.74	+ 0.14	—	5.0
Ilanot Dolev	942.15	937.20	+ 0.29	+7.03	119.2
Ilanot Hul	—	—	—	—	60.1
Ilanot Ilan $.	—	—	—	—	44.9
Ilanot Matach	—	—	—	—	19.7
Inbal Pekan	181.02	181.02	+ 0.08	+7.01	317.2
Lahak Cosmos $.	—	—	—	—	5.5
Lahak Matach	599.68	599.68	+ 0.04	+6.35	240.2
Lak Kahal	—	—	—	—	59.4
Maritime Foreign Fund	—	—	—	—	0.6
Meitav Foreign Currency	298.74	296.32	+ 0.33	+7.06	6.4
Moriah Pekan $	—	—	—	—	20.7
Otzar Universe	—	—	—	—	14.5
Pia Chul	—	—	—	—	138.1
Pia Inbar	119.60	117.48	- 0.10	+5.41	171.7
Pia Prime $	—	—	—	—	22.8
Pia Target $	—	—	—	—	134.5
Psagot Chul	—	—	—	—	79.7
Psagot Globe $.	—	—	—	—	76.3
Psagot Israel Horizon	—	—	—	—	82.0
Psagot Matah	551.46	541.63	- 0.05	+6.27	163.5
Reshef Pekan	—	—	—	—	49.3
Rosen Continental	—	—	—	—	16.0
Tsabar Pekan	340.00	333.95	- 0.17	+7.45	24.4

MIXED

Fund's name	unit cost	redemption price	monthly yield (%)	yield 1998 (%)	NIS assets (millions)
Eilan Pekan	358.33	351.98	+ 1.23	+5.08	87.1
Emda Kolelet	230.84	228.46	+ 0.51	+3.16	67.7
Goren Pekan	770.63	757.16	+ 0.88	+5.48	157.4
Ilanot Barak	3081.40	3065.48	+ 0.45	+8.40	42.3
Ilanot Brosh	3503.27	3485.20	+ 0.60	+6.43	71.2
Ilanot Mixed	2875.99	2860.81	+ 0.14	+0.74	5.7
Lahak Tzofit	793.35	779.51	+ 0.59	+7.86	152.6
Mad Dikla	147.45	146.45	+ 0.10	+4.78	19.2
Pekan Shiklit Meshulevet	84.74	84.74	+ 0.33	—	173.4
Pia	8778.74	8625.37	+ 0.79	+6.31	173.3
Pia Gavish	7209.09	7083.64	+ 0.88	+6.25	220.9
Psagot Meshulevet	775.75	752.10	- 0.41	+8.69	86.0

SOURCE: MEITAV Ltd - Managers of Mutual Funds and Security Investments
DATE:26-Jul-98

The mutual fund prices listed reflect the close of business on MONDAY. They should be used as a guide only and not as the basis for dealing. The Jerusalem Post is not responsible for the accuracy of the data.

TEL AVIV 100
LEADING SHARES

	LAST	CHANGE*
Africa Hotels	441	-6.8
Africa Israel 0.1	19870	-3.2
Africa Israel 1	187000	0
Agis	2460	-0.8
Al Paper Mills	13700	-2.9
Al-Rov	2580	0
Azorim	2940	-1.4
Azorim Prop.	631	1.6
Bank Leumi 0.1	718	0.4
Baran	2920	0.3
Bayside 1	45900	0
Bayside 5	210000	0
Bezeq	1232	-0.2
Blue Square	4960	-0.6
Bromine	3290	0
Clal Electronics	57200	0
Clal Industries	2040	1
Clal Insurance	3900	1
Clal Israel 1	10310	0.5
Dan Hotels	1197	0
Dankner	2150	0
Darban	324	-0.5
Dead Sea Works 0.1	862	-0.3
Delek 0.1	12400	-1.9
Delek Car	825	6.4
Development Mort	22200	-0.5
Discount Bank	495	-1.4
Discount Inv.	12240	-1.1
Elbit 0.003	924	0.9
Elbit imaging	3090	1.6
Elbit system	4890	0.2
Elco	1896	-1.3
Elco Industries	3250	-2.2
Electra	16800	0.5
Electra App	2180	0.5
Elite Ind. 1	2300	0.4
Elite Ind. 5	11750	0.6
Elron 0.003	6610	-0.2
FIBI 5	3400	-1.5
First Int'l 1	523	1
First Int'l 5	2570	0
First Int'l Mort	50400	0
Formula	12900	0.6
General Bank	10600	-2.8
Granit Hacarmel	744	1.2
Hadarim Prop.	8600	-7.1
Ham-Let	2090	0
Hapoalim 0.1	1063	-0.9
Harel Mishmar 1	3440	0
Harel Mishmar 5	16260	-0.4
I.D.B. Dev.	10100	-0.2
I.D.B. Holdings	9780	0
ILDC	2410	0
Ind Bldgs	611	2.1
Israel Chemicals	463	0
Israel Corp. 1	30100	-0.3
Isrotel	651	-1.4
Jafora	803	0
JCT	37	3.8
JEC	1875	-0.8
Kitan	320	2.5
Knafaim	5000	0
Koor	43000	0.9
Leader	1350	0
Leumi Insurance	222	0.5
Leumi Mortgage	78000	-1.3
Lianz	3990	1.5
Makhteshim Agan Ind.	1115	-0.9
Maman	588	3.7
Matab	4800	-0.4
Mehadrin	14300	2.1
Mei Eden	1500	0.6
Meliseron	1028	0
Menorah Ins. 1	2090	0
Milomor	1565	-0.3
Mishkan	64000	-0.8
Mizrahi Inv.	9100	1
NATSVA REGULAR	1400	3.9
Nice Systems	14300	5.7
Ocif	7570	0
Orbit	1380	7.2
Ormat Industries	544	1.7
Osem Industries	1847	-0.7
Petrochemicals	2080	0
Phoenix Ins. 1	5700	3
Poalim Inv.	12310	-1.4
Prop & Bldg	33500	-0.6
Safi Industries	2070	-0.5
Solel Bone	4380	-1.6
Supersol	1194	-1.8
Tadiran	13530	-0.6
Tambour	590	0
Tefahot	193500	-0.4
Tempo	1707	-0.8
Teva	13770	3.1
Urdan	288	1.5
Wire and Cables	1126	1.1
Ytong Industries	920	0

KARAM
SMALL CAPITALIZATION
TASE ISSUES

	LAST	CHANGE*
bolos gad warrant 1	48	38.1
Bonei Tichon	805	-4.1
Bonpur	469	0
Boulous Brothers	154.5	-0.2
Boulous Brothers Bond 1	257	0
Boulous GD Bond A	132.5	0
Brand	88	0
Brill	57	-1.7
Brok Side	20.5	-0.5
Brosh	113.5	0
Building Bank	1688	-0.8
Building Resou.	3330	0.9
C Holdings	575	0
C Holdings Bond 5	85.5	0
C Holdings Warrant 3	1.7	-57.5
Caesarea 1	4950	0
Camet	3470	-2.8
Capital	790	0
Capital Bond A	115	0
Caprice	310	1.9
Cargal	800	0
Carmel	545	0
Carmiel	415	0
Castro	514	0
Catalana 1	376	-0.5
CDI	170	0
Cementecal Bond A	69	0
Cementcal	455	0
Centre	150.5	0
Centra Bond 1	126	0
Cham	470	-2.8
Chayun Computers	144	4.7
Chempal	436	1.2
Chim-Nir	509	1.4
CI Systems	171	0
Cidab	150.5	0
Clal Computers	8800	4.5
Clal Israel 5	0	0
Clal Retail	67198	-1.5
Cohen Beni	122.5	0
Cohen Dev.	200	-6
Cohen MM	150	0
Cold Storage 1	1840	-0.3
Cold Storage 5	9180	1.9
Cold Storage and Supply Bond 1	253	0
Compi	154	1.2
Compi Warrant 1	20	0
Compulite	194	0.5
Comtech	458	0.5
Comtrans	788	0
Contal	1020	-0.9
Contractors	16812	0
Coral Beach	615	-0.5
Credit Line	3.4	0
Credit Lines Bond A	33	0
Cyclone 1	2150	-4.2
Cyclone Bond 1	248	0.8
Cyclone Bond 2	151	0.7
Dafron	1708	0
Dafron Bond 1	247	0
Dafin	1.3	0
Dan Rent-A-Car	760	0
Dan Rent-A-Car Bond A	152.2	0.1
Danbar 1	4800	3.3
Danbar 5	19490	4.7
Danbar Bond A	271	0
Danbar Resources	7870	-0.4
Danbar Resources Bond B	166	0
Danbar Tech.	6000	0
Danbar Technologies Bond A	150	0
Danel	52	0
Danel Bond A	87	0
Danel Personnel	2150	0
Danel Warrant 2	478	0
Dankner Bond 1	210	0
Dankner Bond 2	132.8	0.2
Dankner Bond 3	94.3	0.3
Dankner Warrant C	630	0
Daniy	447	0
Darad	100	0
DARBAN BOND 2	101	0.5
Darban Bond A	289	0
DARBAN W2	250	0
Darban Warrant 3	140	0
Darsa	124.5	0.4
Darlon	140.5	0
Dash Investment	895	0
Data	862	0
Decision Systems	505	-2.6
Degem Systems	469	-0.9
Delek Drillings	12	20.8
Delek Oil	1413	0
Delta 1	3950	2.3
Delta 3	11390	4
Destiny	1390	0
Digel	123	0
Dirom1	1309	0
Dolev	350	0
Dolev Bond A	132.9	0
Dolev warrant 1	44	0
Domicar	405	0
Domicar Bond	151	0
Dor Berger	382	-0.3
Dor Chim	341	0
Dorc w1	120	0
Dorea	56	0
Dorl c1	94.2	0.1
Dori Engineering	455	0
Dori Engineering Bond A	134.5	0
Dovrat Bond A	136	-0.4
Dovrat Shrem	1484	0
Dovrat Shrem Warrant 3	13	0
DSL	1038	0
Dubek M	2.5	4.2
Dubek S	2.5	4.2
Dunitz	301	0
DYG Industries	437	0
E & M Computing	1055	0
Edgar Albani	62	-5.3
Edgar Industries	199	2
Edgar Inv. Bond C	68	-1.2
Edgar Inv. Warrant 5	23	-2.8
Eltar Bond A	98	0

	LAST	CHANGE*
Woolman 5	3050	-6.2
Woolfson	58014	0
Ya'ana	650	1.2
Yaacobi	143	0
Yaad Bond A	169	0
Yaad Bond B	77.5	0
Yaad Industries	288	0
Yaad Warrant 3	44.2	0
Yad	389	0
Yamit	190	0
Yarden	434	3.9
Yarden Bond 2	119.9	0
YDPZ	235	0
YDPZ Bond A	146	0
Yeda	1620	-0.6
Yehuda	191.5	0
Yesh Gad	38.7	0
Yhsal	1580	0
Yhshal Warrant 1	377	0
Yona Bond A	153	0
Yona Hotels	175	0
Yozma	437	0
Yuval	125	0
Zahar	576	0
Zanes Holdings	54.5	0
Zarfati Bond B	85.5	0
Zarfati Warrant 2	51.9	0
Zar	100	0
Zehavi	147	0
Zeller Ablagon	431	0
Zeller Ablagon Bond A	153	0
Zeller Ablagon Bond B	123	0
Zeller Inv. Bond A	61	1.7
Zeller Inv Warrant 1	4.9	0
Zika 1	728	0
Zika 5	2802	0
Zikit 1	4640	0
Zikit 5	21900	0
Zinometal	664	0
Zion Cables 1	262	3.8
Zion Holdings	15010	0
Zion Textiles	154	0
Ziv	378	-10.8
Zohar	293	-2.7
Zoko	244	-2

	LAST	CHANGE*
United Steel	146.8	0
United Steel Industries Bond 1	160	0
Univercol	345	0
Urdan Warrnt 5	135	0
Urope Israel	2990	-3.3
Vardinon	24000	-1.7
Vardinon Bond A	154.5	0
Vardinon Convertible Bond AAA	144.2	0
Videometrix	30.7	-5
Vilar	400	0
Vilar Bond 1	144	0
Vili Food	1570	-1.9
Vilger Bond A	135.5	0
Vitalgo	340	0
Vitalgo Bond A	115.5	-0.9
Vulcan	448	0
Vulcan Bond 1	229	0
Willi Bond A	87.5	-1.1
Willi Warrant 1	414	0
Woolman 1	640	0

*In local currencies

ISRAELI SHARES ABROAD

AMEX

	LAST	CHANGE*
Am Israel Paper Mills	36.375	-2
Ampal American Israel	5.375	+0
Electro Chemical Ind	0.8125	+0.0625
Etz Lavud	7.875	0
Etz Lavud Cl A	6.375	0
Integrated Technology	1.25	+0.125
Carmel Containers Sys	8.125	0

NASDAQ

	LAST	CHANGE*
ACS Electronics Ltd	2.875	-0.375
Accent Software	0.40625	+0
A.G. Associates	2.625	+0
Aladdin	12.75	-0.125
Ampal	16.125	-0.375
Arel	3.5	+0
Anely Advertising Ltd	-	-
Better Online Solutions	5.75	-0.1875
Bio Technology General	7.15625	-0.21875
B.V.R. Technologies	12.5625	-0.1875
Checkpoint Software	23.25	+0.125
Cimatron	2.6875	+0
Comverse Technology	53.1875	+0.1875
Crystal Systems Solutions	12.125	-0.3125
D.S.P.G. Group	21.25	-0.75
D.S.P.T. Tech	9	+0.625
Data Systems Software	4.5	+0.125
ECI Telecom	34.125	+0.25
Edusoft	5.75	-0.25
Electric Fuel	5.125	+0
Electronics for Imaging	16.625	-0.375
Elbit Computers	2.53125	+0
Elron Electronics	18	+0
Elbit Medical Imaging	8.5	+0.125
Elbit Systems Ltd	13.0625	-0.0625
Eltek Circuit Boards	1.125	0
Engel General Developers	5.875	0
ESC Medical Systems Ltd	28.5	-0.5
Elbit Vision Systems	2	+0.0625
Eshed Robotec (1982)	0.5625	0
Formula Systems (1985)	34.75	+0
Forsoft Ltd	16.4375	-0.0625
Fundtech	18	-0.375
Galileo	10.5	+0
G. Willi-Food	4	+0
Gilat Comm Ltd	7.625	-0.375
Gilat Satellite Networks	38.25	+1.75
Genesis Bnei	5.875	-0.125
Healthcare Technologies	1.3125	+0.1875
Home Center	19.5	+0
I.C.T.S.	6.75	-0.125
IIC Industries	10.3125	+0.0625
I.I.S. Intelligent info	1.03125	-0.03125
Israel Land Develop - ADR	19.125	0
Indigo	5	+0
ISG Intl Software Group	7.625	-0.375
Isramco	3.0625	+0.0625
Lan Optics	3.625	-0.1875
Logal	1.5625	+0.125
Level 8 Systems	9	+0.5
M-Systems Flash Disk	4.5	-0.3125
Madge	4.0625	-0.125
Magal Security Systems	3	-0.0625
Matav	26.125	-0.25
Medis El	7	+0.25
Memco	20	-0.375
Mer Telemanagement	1.375	-0.5
Mercury	41.75	+0.375
Magic Software Enterprises	3.125	+0
Netmanage	2.28125	-0.125
New Dimension Software	25.125	-1.125
Nice Systems	39	+0.125
Neuro-Medical Systems	1.03125	-0.15625
Noga Electro Mechanical	2	+0
Nur Tecnology	2.5625	-0.1875
Ops Systems Solutions	7.5	+0
Orbotech	33.25	+0.375
Orckit	16.125	-0.125
Oshap Technologies	7.5	-0.125
Paradigm Geophys	7	+0
Pharmos	2.4375	-0.03125
Point of Sale	6.625	+0
Rada Electronics Ind	1.4375	-0.03125
Radcom Ltd	4	-0.125
RIT Technologies	8.5	-0.875
RSL Communications	39	-1
Scitex Corporations	11.6875	+0.1875
Silicom	2	-0.0625
Summit Design	9.625	-4
Sapiens International	7	+0
Scanvec	2.375	+0
Tadiran Telecomm	18	+0.25
Taro Pharmaceuticals Ind	5.25	-0.125
Tat Technologies	1	0
Technomatix Technologies	16.875	0
Teva	36.375	-1
Top Image Systems	3.5	-0.1875
Teledata Communications	9.3125	+0.3125
Tower Semiconductor	7.0625	+0.125
TTI Team Telecom Intl Ltd	6.375	+0.375
TTR Inc	3.125	+0
TVG Technologies	0.75	-0.09375
Vocaltec	11.75	-0.625
Wiz Tec Solutions	13.0625	+0.0625
Zag Industries Ltd	14.125	+0
Zoran Corporation	8.25	-0.4375

NYSE

	LAST	CHANGE*
Amdocs	12.25	-0.25
Blue Square	15.25	-0.125
D.S.P. Communications	16.4375	+0.3125
Elscint	6.5	-0.125
First Israel Fund	14.125	-0.0625
PEC Israeli Economic Corp	24.8125	-0.375
Koor	23.3125	+0.125
Simula Inc	14.125	-1
Super-Sol Ltd	16.5	-0.1875
Tadiran	36.875	-0.125
Tefron Ltd	23.4375	-0.0625

SOURCE: S&P COMSTOCK (DATE 28-JUL-98)

LONDON

	LAST	CHANGE*
Batm Advanced	169	+1.5
Dmatek Ltd.	29.5	+0
Pilat	42.5	+0
S.E.A. Multimedia	5	+0

SOURCE: S&P COMSTOCK (DATE 28-JUL-98)

INTERNATIONAL SHARES

NEW YORK

	LAST	CHANGE*
Aza	38.875	-0.1875
AMP Inc.	29.5	-0.125
AMR Corp	73.9375	+1.6875
ASA	19	-0.25
Abbott Labs	42.625	-0.9375
Advanced Micro	16.5	+0.1875
Aetna Life	71.875	-2.625
Affiliated Publ	23	-1
Aflac	34.5625	-1.75
Ahmanson (HF)	68.1875	-3.4375
Air Prods	37.1875	-0.8125
Alberto-Culv B	27.6875	-0.1875
Alberison's	50.3125	-0.6875
Alcan Aluminum	26.25	-0.4375
Allied Signal	45.3125	-0.3125
Alcoa	69.5	-0.6875
Amax	48.3125	-0.5625
Amerada Hess	52.125	+0.3125
Amer Brands	23.5625	-0.25
Amer El Power	44.25	-0.0625
Amer Express	112.25	-0.5625
Amer Genl Corp	68.9375	-1.125
Amer Greeting	45.5	+0.5
Amer Home Pr	51.25	-1
Amer Int'l.	149.5	-3.4375
Amer Natl Ins	100	-5.875
Amer Power Conv	29.375	+0.25
Amer Stores	23.3125	-0.375
Amer T & T	59.0625	-0.9375
Amer West Hldg	25.3125	-0.25
Ameritech	49.25	-2.375
Ametek Inc	29.0625	-0.3125

	LAST	CHANGE*
Health Care Ppt	36.375	-0.625
Hecla Mining	5	+0.0625
Heinz (HJ)	54.9375	+0
Helix Technol	12.875	+0.125
Hmrch & Payne	21.0625	-0.3125
Hercules	36.4375	+0.0625
Hershey Foods	63.75	-1.375
Hewlett Packard	57.4375	+0
Hilton Hotels	25.5	-0.375
Hirsch Inl	4.6875	-0.9375
Hollinger	16.4375	+0
Home Depot	43.375	-0.5
Homestake	10.4375	+0.5625
Honeywell	80.8125	+1.5625
Hormel (Geo)	33.4375	-1.0625
Household Intl	49.0625	+0.1875
Houston Inds	28.625	+0
Humana	27.5625	+0.3125
-		
IBM	125.5	+0
Illinova Corp	25.1875	-0.0625

	LAST	CHANGE*
Stanley Works	43.25	-0.5625
Stone Container	12.3125	-0.5
Storage Technol	38.6875	-1.25
Stratus Comp	23.0625	+1.0625
Sun America	2.5625	+0.0625
Sunbeam Corp.	9.125	-0.25
Sun Company	35.375	+0.25
Sundstrand	53.875	-1.875
Sun Microsystms	47.4375	-1
Sunshine Mining	0.875	+0.0625
Suntrust	72.8125	-0.4375
Supervalu	49.4375	-0.625
Symantec	24.625	-1.25
Sysco Corp	24.75	-0.5625
-		
TJX Cos Inc	24.6875	-0.8125
TRW Inc	54.5	-1.75
Tab Products	12.1875	+0.1875
Tandy Corp	54.625	+1.0625
Telecom Corp	40.625	-0.375
Telefonos de Mex	50.25	-1.0625

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	LAST	CHANGE*
Telef De Espana	149.375	+1.125
Temple Inland	51.875	-0.5
Tenneco	38	-0.125
Tenet Health	28.4375	-1.375
Teradyne	23.9375	+0
Tesoro Pet	16	-0.125
Texaco	60.8125	+0.5
Texas Instrmnts	59	+1.1875
Texas Utilities	40.375	-0.4375
Textron	74.875	+0.625
Thiokol	-	-
Thomas & Betts	43	-0.4375
ThreeCom	24.875	-1.125
Time Warner	90.6875	-3.1875
Times-Mirror	61.4375	+0.1875
Timken	23.8125	-0.0625
Torchmark	43.875	-0.625
Tosco Corp	28.25	-0.5625
Toys R Us	22.5625	-0.625
Transamerica	117.063	-1.1875
Transco Energy	67.6875	+0
Travellers Grp	66	-1.5
Tribune	68.5	-0.0625
Triton Energy	17.25	-0.3125
TWA	8.625	-0.125
Tyco Intl Ltd	63.75	-1.4375
Tyler	9.5	+0
UAL Corp	79.9375	+0.1875
USG Corp	53.625	-2.0625
UST Inc	26.75	+0.375
USX Marathon	34.25	-0.5625
USX-US Steel	28.4375	-0.1875
Ultramar Diam	26.6875	-0.5625
Unicom Corp	35.375	-0.1875
Unilever PLC	42	-0.6875
Unilever NV	76.0625	-1.4375
Union Camp	41.125	-0.5
Union Carbide	50.0625	+1.1875
Union Pacific	40.5	-0.5625
Unisys Corp	27.5	-0.5
USAIR Group	75.5	+0.4375
USF&G Corp	-	-
US Home	37.625	-1.625
US Surgical	47.125	-1.28125
US Trust	79.125	-0.375
US West	53.75	+0.0625
United Tech	94.625	-2.6875
Unocal Corp	33.125	+0.25
VF Corp	48.75	+0.6875
VMRX Pharmaceut	1.03125	+0.03125
Valero Energy	24	-1.3125
Varian Assoc	34	+0.4375
Viacom Inc	67	-0.5
Vishay	12.9375	-0.4375
Vulcan Materials	115.438	-0.9375
Wachovia	82.125	-1.375
Walgreen	44.375	-1.1875
Wal-Mart Stores	63.4375	-0.4375
Warner-Lambert	79.375	-3.25
Wash Gas Light	23.75	-0.5
Washington Mutu	41.5	-2.0625
Washington Post	556.938	-13.4375
Waste Mgmnt Inc	-	-
Watkins-Johnson	22.3125	-0.5625
Weis Markets	35	+0.0625
Wells Fargo	360	-10
Wendy's Intl	22.3125	-0.4375
Westvaco	25.0625	-0.625
Weyerhaeuser	43.75	-0.4375
Whirlpool	62.125	+0.625
Whitman	22	-1.3125
Williams Co	33.5	-0.75
Winn Dixie Strs	43.875	-2.25
Woolworth	15.25	-0.3125
World Comm	52.25	-2.8125
Worthington Ind	14.0313	-0.25
Wrigley	94.5625	-1
Xerox	110.938	-0.0625
Yellow Freight	16.75	-0.3125
Zenith Electron	-	-
Zero Co	28.75	-0.25

LONDON

Allied Domecq	565.5	-12.5
BAT Inds	594	+8.5
BT	883	+15
BTR	146.75	-2.5
Barclays	1759	-4
Bass	1017	-17
Boots	1023	-14
British Airways	618.5	-5
Comm Union plc	1165	+17
Diageo	711.5	-14.5
General Electric	497	-5.5
Glaxo	1740	+38
Halifax	750	+4
HSBC (75p shs)	1530	+14
ICI	722	+11
Land Securities	857	+4
Lloyds Bank	857.5	+8
Marks & Spencer	493.5	-16
NatWest Bank	1160	+6
Prudential	837.5	-3.5
Reuters	624	-6
Sainsbury	536	-2.5
Shell Transport	335.25	-4.75
Tyco Intl	4000	+50
Unilever	629	-4.5
Zeneca	2274	-57

PARIS

Accor	1653	+39
Air Liquide	927	+11
Alcatel Alsthom	1220	-45
Euro Disney	10.8	-0.1
Moulinex	135.7	-1.3
Paribas	654	+3
Pernod Ricard	409.9	+1.9
Peugeot	1190	-4
Saint Gobain	1082	-12

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FRANKFURT

	LAST	CHANGE*
Bayer	84.2	-0.15
Daimler-Benz	181.2	-0.3
Lufthansa	50	+1
Mannesmann	181	+5.5
Metallgesellschaft	38.6	-0.8
Volkswagen	166	-3.5

SOURCE: S&P COMSTOCK (DATE 28-JUL-98)

FOREIGN EXCHANGE RATES

	Last	Change
Sal (Basket) (1)	3.905	0
U.S. Dollar (1)	3.659	0
British Pound (1)	6.0392	0
Deutsch Mark (1)	2.0484	0
French Franc (1)	0.611	0
Japanese Yen (100)	2.576	0
Swiss Franc (1)	2.4387	0
Canadian Dollar (1)	2.4344	0
Italian Lira (1000)	2.077	0
Jordanian Dinar (1)	5.1775	0

NEW YORK MARKET INDEXES

	Last	Change
DJ Industrials	8934.78	-93.46
DJ Transport	3313.8	-34.44
DJ Utils	283.83	-2.49
DJ Comp	2822.45	-28.71
NYSE Industr	697.92	-8.5
NYSE Transport	484.47	-2.52
NYSE Comp	569.49	-7.94
S&P 100	555.5	-8.22
S&P Spot Index	1130.14	-17.13

OTHER MARKET INDEXES

	Last	Change
FTSE 100	5835.8	-0.3
Tokyo Nikkei	16114.5	+170.2
Singapore all-share index	307.01	-0.12
Hong Kong Hang Seng index	7928.1	-58.3
Israel Index	227.93	-1.84
Paris CAC 40	4122.35	-17.18
DAX	5865	-150.28
Madrid	908.06	-15.69
Sydney	2726.2	+10.9
Milan	1571.3	-4.47

DOLLAR CROSSRATES (US)

	Last	Change
Pound: spot	1.6475	-0.0065
Sep.future (CME)	1.644	-0.008
D-mark: spot	1.7717	-0.018
Sep.future (CME)	0.5666	+0.0053
S-franc: spot	1.4887	-0.0159
Sep.future (CME)	0.6753	+0.0072
Yen: spot	141.28	-1.39
Sep.future (CME)	0.007134	+6.1e-005
CanDlr: spot	1.5003	-0.0033
Sep.future (CME)	0.6662	+0.001
AusDlr: spot	0.6134	+0.0059
Sep.future (CME)	0.6145	+0.0049
F-franc: spot	5.937	-0.055
It Lira: spot	1745.5	-17.75
Nlg: spot	1.9985	-0.0187
AutShlg: spot	12.4805	-0.0655
Rand: spot	6.255	+0.01
ECU: spot	1.1133	+0.0086

US COMMODITIES

	Last	Change
Cocoa (Sep) (CEC)	1538	-21
Coffee (Sep) (CEC)	115.55	+3.45
Wheat (Sep) (CBOT)	256	-4.5
Soybean (Sep) (CBOT)	572	+2.25
Sugar (Oct) (CEC)	8.53	+0.09
Orange juice (Sep)(CEC)	107.2	-0.05
Bonds Sep.future	122.1	-0.12
S and P Sep.future	1135	-18.2

LONDON COMMODITIES

	Last	Change
Cocoa (Sep) (LCE)	1049	-25
Coffee (Sep) (LCE)	1575	+15
Brent crude oil (Sep)(IPE)	1319	+4

SPOT MARKET METALS (US)

	Last	Change
Silver: spot	5.67	+0.02

NEW YORK METAL FUTURES

	Last	Change
Gold (Dec)	296.3	+1.5
Silver (Sep)	5.67	+0.02
Platinum (Oct)	385.5	+8
Palladium (Sep)	304.35	+2.1
High-grade copper (Sep)	0.7885	-0.003

LONDON METAL FIXES

	Last	Change
Gold AM fix	290.35	-0.4
Gold PM fix	-	-
Silver fix	564	+1.5

Month in parentheses signals contract exp. date
(Spot market listings are from approximately 23:30 Israel time. All others are closing quotes.)

Foreign financial data courtesy of
CommStock Trading Ltd.
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ISRAEL MONEY MARKETS

Patah (foreign currency deposit rates)

Currency (deposit for:)	3 MONTHS	6 MONTHS	12 MONTHS
U.S. dollar ($250,000)	4.770	4.800	5.090
Pound sterling (£100,000)	5.550	5.540	5.620
German mark (DM 200,000)	*2.180*	*2.280*	*2.700*
Swiss franc (SF 200,000)	0.060	0.190	0.560
Yen (10 million yen)	—	—	—

(Rates vary higher or lower than indicated according to deposit)

Shekel Foreign Exchange Rates* (28.7.98)

	CHECKS AND TRANSFERS		BANKNOTES		Rep. Rates**
	Buy	Sell	Buy	Sell	
Currency basket	3.8749	3.9374	—	—	3.9050
U.S. dollar	3.6287	3.6873	3.56	3.74	3.6590
German mark	2.0335	2.0663	1.99	2.10	2.0484
Pound sterling	6.0088	6.1058	5.901	6.20	6.0392
French franc	0.6064	0.6162	0.59	0.63	0.6110
Japanese yen (100)	2.5565	2.5978	2.51	2.64	2.5762
Dutch florin	1.8038	1.8329	1.77	1.86	1.8170
Swiss franc	2.4210	2.4601	2.37	2.50	2.4387
Swedish krona	0.4599	0.4674	0.45	0.48	0.4630
Norwegian krone	0.4812	0.4890	0.47	0.50	0.4847
Danish krone	0.5335	0.5422	0.52	0.55	0.5375
Finnish mark	0.6690	0.6798	0.65	0.69	0.6738
Canadian dollar	2.4131	2.4521	2.37	2.49	2.4344
Australian dollar	2.2118	2.2475	2.17	2.28	2.2302
S. African rand	0.5769	0.5863	0.52	0.59	0.5826
Belgian franc (10)	0.9860	1.0020	0.96	1.02	0.9932
Austrian schilling (10)	2.8904	2.9371	2.84	2.98	2.9116
Italian lira (1000)	2.0619	2.0952	2.02	2.13	2.0770
Jordanian dinar	*5.1073*	*5.1897*	*5.04*	5.39	5.1775
Egyptian pound	1.0300	1.1200	1.03	1.12	1.1160
ECU	4.0161	4.0809	—	—	4.0459
Irish punt	5.1129	5.1954	5.02	5.27	5.1500
Spanish peseta (100)	2.3948	2.4335	2.35	2.47	2.4151

*These rates vary according to bank. **Bank of Israel.

SOURCE: BANK LEUMI

US stocks fall on news of Lewinsky affair

Wall Street

US stocks tumbled yesterday as the stepped-up pace of events in the White House sex scandal added to the bearish brew already rattling investors.

The Dow Jones industrial average ended off 93.46 points, or 1 percent, at 8,934.78 after recovering from an early loss of 212 points.

Declining issues beat advances by 3 to 1 on heavy volume of 703 million shares on the New York Stock Exchange.

The Nasdaq composite index plunged 37.39 points, or 1.9 percent, to 1,895.87. GM rose and Merck dropped only slightly, but the two, both Dow components, were exceptions in an otherwise weak market.

The market, which has been dogged by disappointing corporate earnings, was further depressed by news of an immunity deal for former White House intern Monica Lewinsky.

"[The Lewinsky news] exacerbates the situation more than anything else," said Jack Shaughnessy, chief investment strategist at Advest. "Anything that undermines the president's effectiveness is not good for our *financial markets.*" *(Reuters)*

Tel Aviv

Stocks closed mixed, with Teva Pharmaceutical Industries rising on expectations that one of its drugs will be approved for European sales and Israel Discount Bank falling on concern lower interest rates will erode profit.

Shares in the nation's largest drugmaker rose 3.15 percent to NIS 137.70, helping to push the Maof Index of 25 largest companies up 0.25%, or 0.85 points, to 337.04. Eight shares rose, 10 fell and six closed unchanged.

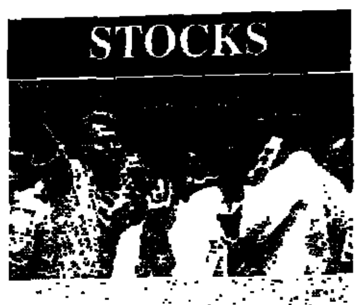
Analysts said Teva, which pushed the index up the most, rose on expectations the European Union will soon approve the sale of its profitable multiple sclerosis drug Copaxone. The company exports about half of its products to the US, which already approved the sale of Copaxone in late 1996.

"There is a chance that Teva will get approval from the European Union," said Keith Phillips, an analyst at Societe Generale Securities and Trading in London. European sales of Copaxone will contribute "significantly" to the company's bottom line, he said.

Discount Bank, the nation's third-largest bank, fell 1.39% to NIS 4.95 on concern profit margins will decrease after the Bank of Israel on Monday cut the benchmark lending rate by 30 basis points to 11%. This was the nation's seventh rate cut this year, pulling the rate down a total of 2.4 percentage points.

"If rates continue to come down, it will put pressure on (banks') margins in the long run," said Ron Weisberg, an analyst at Israel Brokerage and Investments.

STOCKS



Maof 337.04 ▲ 0.25%

Dow Jones 8934 ▼ 1%

FTSE 5835.8 ▼ 0.01%

Nikkei 16114.54 ▲ 1.07%

Europe

UK stocks closed mixed yesterday as Shell Transport & Trading Co. fell along with the price of crude, while British Telecommunications Plc. kept gaining after announcing a joint venture with AT&T Corp.

The FTSE 100 Index lost 0.30 points to 5835.8, giving up earlier gains to fall for a sixth straight day.

Shell fell 4.25 pence to 395.25p. British Petroleum Plc. was unchanged at 824p after falling as much as 13p earlier.

Shell has fallen 12 percent and British Petroleum Plc. fell 10% in the past two months. During that period, London crude oil futures dropped 7%. Crude was trading at $13.16 a barrel by the close of trading in the UK yesterday, little changed from Monday.

Telephone stocks gained as a proposed venture between BT and AT&T lifted hopes others will join forces. BT gained 17p to 885.

Vodafone Group Plc. added 10p to 835 and Orange Plc. gained a penny to 686.5.

"Telecoms are still in the ascendancy with the consolidation story," Shelley said. "Consolidation is a good ongoing process, and once the stories roll, if they're global, they can roll for three to five years."

Asia

Japanese stocks rose on expectations former prime minister Kiichi Miyazawa will accept a post as the country's next finance minister, preventing a power vacuum in the new government that Keizo Obuchi will lead.

Top exporters such as Fuji Photo Film Co. paced the gains after Kyodo News quoted an unnamed official of the ruling Liberal Democratic Party as saying Miyazawa will take the position.

"Miyazawa's becoming finance minister doesn't mean everything's going to change," said Kenji Karikomi, deputy general manager of Daiwa Securities Co.'s equity department. "But it brings closure to the difficult problem of organizing a cabinet."

Obuchi, now foreign minister, is slated to become prime minister tomorrow.

The benchmark Nikkei 225 stock index rose 170.18 points, or 1.07%, to 16,114.54. The broader Topix index of all companies listed on the first section of the Tokyo Stock Exchange gained 8.24 points, or 0.67%, to 1242.22.

Yen gains on talk Miyazawa may speed reform

The dollar fell against the yen for the first time in six days on reports that former Japanese Prime Minister Kiichi Miyazawa accepted the government's top finance post, easing concern about delays to economic reform.

"All of a sudden, people are saying Miyazawa's okay because he's got the experience they need," said Kevin Weir, a manager of foreign exchange at State Street Bank in Boston. "For now, we've run out of dollar buyers."

The dollar fell to 141.82 yen from 142.48 yen Monday in New York. It also fell to 1.7751 marks from 1.7878, dragged down by losses in the British pound. Traders sometimes sell the US and U.K. currencies in tandem because the two nations share close commercial ties.

The yen gained as Nikkei English News, citing Kyodo News, said Miyazawa might be talked into accepting the finance minister's job. On Monday, analysts speculated Prime Minister-designate Keizo Obuchi would have trouble filling the post.

Any delay in securing a finance minister could hamper efforts to end the country's recession and reinforce investors' reluctance to buy yen.

Miyazawa has played a big role in setting recent economic policies, including the creation of so-called "bridge-banks" that would help clean up Japan's crippled banking industry by absorbing assets left by insolvent lenders and continue funding creditworthy borrowers.

CURRENCIES

Dollar 3.650 no change

Basket 3.050 ▼ 0.09%

Mark 2.0484 ▼ 0.27%

Sterling 6.0392 ▼ 0.45%

"(Miyazawa) is regarded as a reformer," said Marc Chandler, a senior currency strategist at Deutsche Bank Securities.

Hope Miyazawa can steer Japan toward recovery also sparked a rally in Japanese stocks. The benchmark Nikkei 225 index gained 1 percent, or 170.18 points. Those gains can help the yen as global investors need the Japanese currency to pay for stock purchases.

"There's definitely longer-term equity flows into Japan," said State Street's Weir.

The dollar also was weighed down amid reports that Monica Lewinsky, a former White House intern, told prosecutors from independent counsel Kenneth Starr's office that she had sexual relations with President Bill Clinton. The president has denied those claims.

A pick-up in the investigation could distract the administration from economic issues and prompt some investors to look outside the United States until the matter is resolved, traders said.

"Clinton already has his hands full," said Diego Giurleo, manager of currency sales at Royal Bank of Canada. "The Lewinsky issue may take his mind off the economy."

The dollar recovered some of its losses against the yen in London trading on speculation China could devalue its currency to boost exports, which in turn would hurt Japanese exports and the yen.

The unofficial rate for the Chinese yuan fell to 8.68 to the US dollar — almost 5% less than the official rate and down from 8.60 last week.

Analysts said newspapers in China are speculating the government will devalue the yuan as slumping currencies in Asia, especially the yen, make Chinese exports more expensive.

(Bloomberg)

Copper climbs amid rising demand

Oil

Crude oil for September delivery rose 7 cents to $14.29 a barrel on the New York Mercantile Exchange. Traders awaited the weekly inventory report from the American Petroleum Institute, to be issued after trading.

The API's previous report, last week, showed that crude oil supplies unexpectedly rose during the week ended July 17, even as US refiners produced record amounts of gasoline.

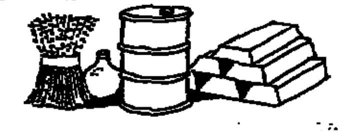
Others

Copper for three-month delivery rose $22.50 to $1,761.50 a ton on the London Metal Exchange as reports indicated that demand is rising in North America and Europe. France, Europe's second-largest copper consumer, said the number of new houses under construction in June rose 1.8 percent in the second quarter from the second quarter last year, fueling demand for copper pipes and wire.

Coffee for September delivery fell $11 to $1,528 a metric ton on the London International Financial Futures and Options Exchange on forecasts for mild temperatures this week in Brazil, the world's largest grower. Warmer weather reduces the chances of crop-damaging frost.

Cocoa for September delivery fell 7 pounds ($11.55) to 1,054 pounds a metric ton on the London International Financial Futures and Options Exchange amid forecasts for more showers in Ivory Coast, the world's largest grower, during the rest of this week. Heavy rain this month has boosted the development of this year's crop and could increase the yield of the October harvest, GNI Ltd., a commodities brokerage, said in its daily market commentary.

COMMODITIES



Gold $291.05 ▲ 0.7%

Crude Oil $13.23 ▲ 0.11%

CRB 207.09 ▲ 0.59%

Precious Metals

RLONDON, July 28 (Reuters) - Silver continued to show the most activity in precious metals during late European trade on Tuesday, nudging back towards $5.70 resistance after Monday's $5.64/67 close as gold struggled, dealers said.

"Silver's done most although it hasn't moved that well, a range of $5.62 to $5.68 is not that wonderful. It looks like a consolidatory phase," said one London dealer.

"There's an argument for $5.52/$5.53, which will definitely come if we break $5.60 on the downside," he said.

Nearby resistance was at $5.70, with a technical resistance area above that created by 100 and 200-day moving averages at $5.74 and $5.79 respectively.

Gold moved in a narrow range during European time, fixing at $290.60 an ounce in the afternoon, barely changed from the morning's $290.35.

"Gold's a bit disappointing with nothing really going on," said the dealer, adding that he thought $289.50 support would hold at least until Wednesday's expiry in over-the-counter options.

"The next two dollars are up rather than down although it looks a sell on the rally," he said.

Movements in the yen, which have directly influenced spot gold for weeks now, helped support gold through Europe amid hopes that Japan's new finance minister might hasten reforms.

Dollar/yen opened at 141.65/75 in New York, down from Monday's 142.42/45 close.

Spot gold was last at $290.90/$291.40, 90 cents up on New York's Monday close. Silver was last at $5.68/$5.71, up four cents on New York's close while platinum was last at $379.40/381.40 versus its $375.50/$377.50 close.

Palladium also rose to be last up $1.75 on its previous New York close, trading at $304.00/$314.00.

(Bloomberg)

US bonds fall as evidence of slowdown sought

US bonds fell for a third day as traders looked for evidence the economy is slowing and the dollar slumped against the yen.

"My feeling is the economy will do better in the second half of the year," said Frank Rachwalski, who oversees about $16 billion of money market assets at Scudder Kemper Investments in Chicago. "Everything is not going to be so rosy" for the bond market.

The benchmark 30-year Treasury bond was down 6/32, or $1.88 per $1,000 bond at 105 22/32, to yield 5.72 percent, up 1 basis point. The two-year note's yield was up 1 basis point at 5.47%.

A decline in the dollar also curbed demand for Treasuries.

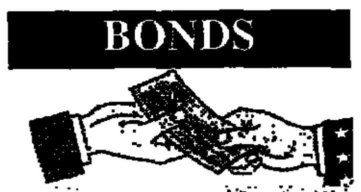
Expectations Japan's new leaders will do more to revive the economy drove the US currency lower against the yen. The dollar fell to 141.91 yen, from 142.48 late Monday.

Many bond investors are reluctant to buy before reports later this week, including the quarterly employment cost index, which is viewed as the best measure of wages and benefits, and second-quarter economic growth figures.

"The bond market will bounce around until we see some signs of change in the economy," said Marshall Front, who oversees $1.3 billion in assets at Trees Front Associates in Chicago.

In two days of testimony to Congress last week, Federal Reserve Chairman Alan Greenspan said he expects the US economy to lose steam as Asia's financial woes and the weeks-long strike by workers at General Motors Corp. curb US growth. Still, he also warned that inflation remains a bigger threat to the economy than a protracted slowdown, and said the central bank is ready to raise interest rates if necessary.

BONDS



US 30-year T-bill yield

5.72 ▲ 0.2

The Fed last increased interest rates in March 1997, when it raised the target rate for overnight lending between banks a quarter point to 5.5%. Thursday's report will probably show that the ECI rose 0.8% in the second quarter after climbing 0.7% in the first quarter. Friday's report on gross domestic product is likely to show that the economy barely expanded in the second quarter, after growing at an annual pace of 5.4% in the first quarter.

"The employment cost index will be the highlight of the week," said Bill Gamba, head of private client group bond trading at SG Cowen. "We view it as a sign of inflation."

Yet Gamba and many others say they're bullish on bonds because they're doubtful that Keizo Obuchi, who won an election Friday to succeed Ryutaro Hashimoto as president of the ruling Liberal Democratic Party, will move quickly to boost consumer confidence. Obuchi is set to become the next prime minister when parliament reconvenes tomorrow.

Speculation that former Prime Minister Kiichi Miyazawa will become Finance Minister bred expectations that reform of Japan's economy might begin sooner than expected. A senior official of the ruling Liberal Democratic Party said Miyazawa, 78, will take the job, according to Kyodo News. Miyazawa said earlier he was reluctant to accept because of his age.

The economic slump in Japan and other Asian economies prompted a rush to the haven of US bonds in recent months, pushing the yield on 30-year bonds to a record low of 5.56 percent earlier this month.

"Safe-haven flows could be unwound some more" if Japan were to "move quickly and dramatically" to boost the economy, said Nick Stamenkovic, an economist at Baca Futures in London.

(Bloomberg)

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Powdered muscles: The perils of Creatine

MY CALL

By SUSAN REIMER

My son's buddy, Paul, walked in the front door sucking on a bottle of what looked like apple juice and, because I well know Paul's aversion to any fluids that aren't caramel-colored and carbonated, I asked what he was drinking.

Creatine, Paul said, beaming. I'm *in the loading phase.*

Creatine, a synthetic version of a substance found naturally in red meat and fish and stored in muscle cells, is a substance that athletes claim gives them explosive energy.

It is called nature's steroid, because athletes say it allows them to lift more weight longer and recover more quickly from these intense workouts.

Creatine is an exploding financial success. It is so popular among professional athletes that some teams have tubs of the powder in their training rooms, but so controversial that other pro teams have policies disapproving its use.

St. Louis Cardinal home-run hitter Mark McGwire, with an upper body like a cement pillar, swears by it. So does Baltimore Oriole Brady Anderson, who went from being a singles hitter to a legitimate long-ball threat and gives Creatine credit. Once a skinny center fielder, Anderson recently posed half-naked for a muscle magazine.

Shannon Sharpe, tight end for the Super Bowl champion Denver Broncos, is a spokesman for a company that sells it. Olympic athletes, especially swimmers, believe in it, too, and it was in widespread use during the 1996 Games in Atlanta. Sprinter Michael Johnson swears by it.

Not surprisingly, Creatine also is used by college athletes. There was an ad for it in the program for the NCAA Division I wrestling championships. And, of course, it is finding its way into high school locker rooms where boys are in a huge hurry to bulk up.

Creatine isn't illegal. You can purchase it from a health food store or, as Paul did, from the shelves of a grocery store. It comes in pills, powders, liquid, gel or chewing gum form. And many consider it safe, as did the pharmacist who assured Paul's mother when she questioned him before giving in to her son's pleading.

But nobody knows for sure.

The Food and Drug Administration does not require the makers of nutritional supplements to prove that their pills and powders are safe or effective. Nor are they required to label packages with the contents or to provide safety warnings.

Paul could have been mixing chalk dust with water, for all he knew.

Or, if he were an Olympic athlete, he could have been consuming some other banned substance without knowing it.

But the most alarming thing about Creatine to us mothers of young athletes is that there is no information on its long-term effects on a child's major organs: his liver, kidneys, heart or pancreas.

There are lots of ongoing studies, and there are no alarming results, but the longest of these studies is only four years out. All that means is that Paul probably will not be in renal failure for his high-school graduation exercises.

There are anecdotal reports of unpleasant short-term effects, especially during the loading phase: cramps, loose stools, nausea, dizziness. Some trainers and strength coaches fear Creatine may cause an electrolyte imbalance that predisposes athletes to dehydration and heat-related illnesses and injuries, such as muscle pulls or cramps, although Creatine manufacturers dispute this.

And, like the steroids that allow muscles to lift more weight than the ligaments and tendons can handle, Creatine may be the root cause of more serious athletic injuries.

Put all that stuff aside, and answer a question for me.

Where are we going with this? Creatine for our child-athletes goes way beyond $200 graphite baseball bats or personal coaches.

Few of us parents will be fielding calls from college recruiters desperate for our soccer or lacrosse player. Only one in a million of us is raising a child who will be any more than a weekend warrior when he or she matures, no matter their passion for sports now.

Even if you are nurturing a little thoroughbred, what messages about athletics and sportsmanship and life come in a jar of powdered muscles? That any advantage and it is clear creatine is one is worth taking regardless of the risk? Creatine is said by its manufacturers to be safe if taken in recommended doses, but you know kids: If some is good, more is better is religious doctrine to them.

The Washington Redskins are the reason Paul's Creatine cocktail was eventually tossed down the drain.

In a booklet on nutrition distributed to its players, the team asks if the player is eating breakfast, monitoring his calories and fat, eating from all food groups, including three to five servings of fruit a day.

Are they eating vegetables and drinking plenty of water, the team asks? If you cannot answer yes to each of these questions, why take a supplement? Don't expect supplements to replace the need for a daily balanced diet. Our kids don't need nutritional supplements, they need nutrition the kind that doesn't come from a drive-through window or a pizza box.

Paul didn't buy that argument, but his mother did and she dumped the stuff.

Creatine may be a reasonable risk for a professional athlete whose livelihood turns on inches or seconds.

But high school kids need understanding, and that does not come in powdered form.

(The Baltimore Sun)

US dream is not over yet

ATHENS (Reuters) – They may not be the Dream Team but it's not the stuff of nightmares either.

Twenty-four hours before the United States start the defense of their world basketball crown without their big-name NBA players, coach Rudy Tomjanovich remained firmly upbeat yesterday and ready for the fray.

"When you believe in each other then good things happen and I think this team has that sort of mentality," he told reporters at the end of the squad's second three-hour training session in as many days.

"Egos are not a problem. No money is involved here. This is for the love of basketball."

Tomjanovich, a virtual icon with the Houston Rockets where he has spent the last 28 years as a highly successful player and coach, finds himself in charge of an unlikely mix seeking to defend the title won by the Dream Team of 1994.

In the absence this time around of NBA players because of the lockout, Tomjanovich has had just three weeks to lick into shape a non-NBA squad to fly the US flag.

But that is not to say the Americans are out of it despite the solid presence of such teams as Yugoslavia, Russia, Italy and Greece.

Three victories in three recent training/exhibition games against France, Spain and Italy, were a welcome boost for Tomjanovich.

Today's opening day at the 20,000 capacity indoor hall of the Olympic Stadium where Brazil provide the opposition.

After that it's Lithuania tomorrow and South Korea on Friday.

SPORTS
in brief

Caesarea golf

Jules Cuburnek's score of 44 was enough to win the individual stableford competition this week at the Caesarea and also gave him the lead in the qualifying round for the annual Eli Kirshner matchplay knock-out event.

Cuburnek was first in his stableford C group with Stanley Zinn (in his second club competition) second with 39, and Aviva Dankner third with 36.

Chuck Shaikowitz won the A division with 43 points, with Zev Abraham second on 37 and Yehuda Zilberbuch third with 34. The B division was an all-women's affair as Devorah Deutch led with 41 points with Judy Reefe second with 38 and Reva Levy third with 35.

Thirty-two qualifiers will begin the knock-out rounds this week with matches continuing in the quest for a winner over the next three months. *Heather Chait*

FIA reject McLaren appeal

LONDON (Reuters) – Motor racing's governing body yesterday rejected the McLaren Formula One team's appeal against the result of the recent British Grand Prix.

"The results of the 1998 British Grand Prix are therefore final," the International Automobile Federation (FIA) said in a statement, upholding Michael Schumacher's victory for Ferrari.

The German remained eight points behind McLaren's Mika Hakkinen who leads the world championship standings.

McLaren had protested after Schumacher escaped punishment for ignoring a yellow flag during the July 12 race after mistakes were made by the Silverstone stewards.

Thorpe to have surgery to fix back troubles

LONDON (Reuters) – Surrey and England batsman Graham Thorpe is to have an operation on his back on Friday to remove a small cyst, his county said yesterday.

Thorpe, who has suffered with back trouble for some time, missed the fourth Test against South Africa which ended on Monday.

The left-hander is unlikely to be fit for the deciding Test in two weeks' time, but hopes to return before the end of the English domestic season in September.

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(Rates in effect until 12/31/98)

Slammin' Sammy Sosa reaches 40 HRs

PHOENIX (AP) – Now everyone can call him Grand Slammin' Sammy.

Sosa hit his 39th and 40th home runs, including the first slam of his career, as the Chicago Cubs beat the Arizona Diamondbacks 6-2 Monday night.

Sosa had hit 246 homers – no player in major league history had gone longer at the start of a career without a slam – until connecting in the eighth inning at Phoenix.

"Thank God," he said, "I'm not going to have to hear that no more."

The record for most consecutive homers without a slam at any point in a career is 266 by Cal Ripken.

Sosa was teased by teammates after ending his streak, which began in 1989 when he hit his first big league homer for Texas against Roger Clemens.

"I'm sure he's glad to get that monkey off his back, because it was really just a fluke thing that he hadn't hit one," Cubs manager Jim Riggleman said.

Sosa tied his career high for home runs in a season and also matched his career-best with six RBIs. He has 102 RBIs, the fourth straight year he's reached the 100-RBI mark.

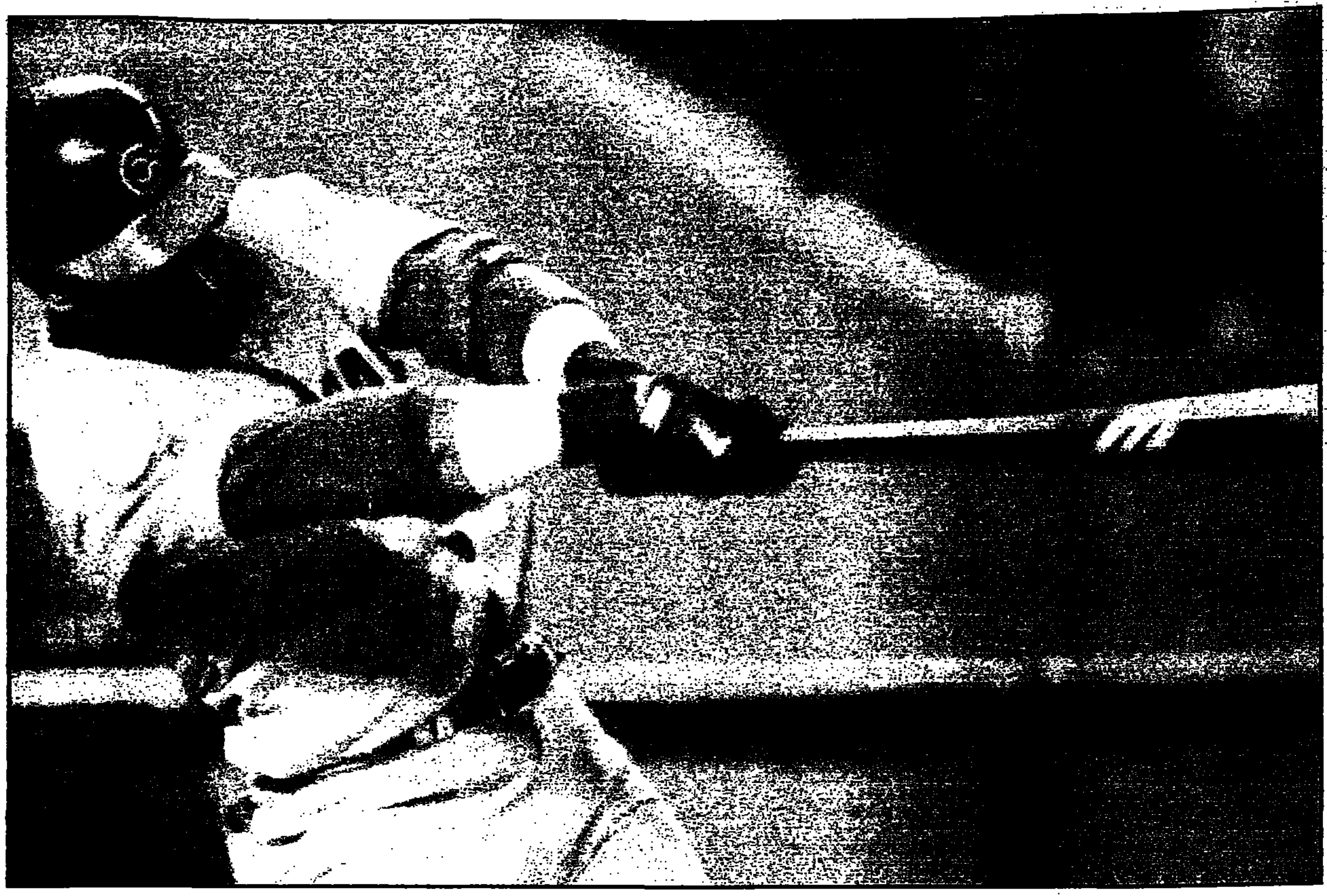
Before Sosa, the record for homers at the beginning of a career without a slam was 209 by Bob Horner. Three players finished their careers with more than 150 home runs and no slams – Glenn Davis (190), Ron Kittle (176) and Claudell Washington (164).

Sosa set a major league record with 20 home runs in June, but had hit just four in July until connecting Sunday at Wrigley Field against New York.

"I've been swinging too hard, trying to hit the home run," he said. "The first at-bat he got me, and I said to myself I have to be more relaxed and go out there and make good contact."

Sosa hit a two-run homer in the sixth off Willie Blair, then hit a 438-foot drive to center field in the eighth off Alan Embree.

"That's twice he's pulled my pants down and embarrassed me," said Embree, who gave up Sosa's home run in June. "I have to figure out a way to get that guy out."



FIRST OF TWO – Cubs' Sammy Sosa connects for his 39th home run in sixth-inning action against the Diamondbacks. In the eighth frame, he slugged his 40th, his first career Grand Slam in Chicago's 6-2 win.

(Reuters)

Rockies 8, Pirates 7 (13)

Vinny Castilla homered twice and doubled, and Jeff Reed hit an RBI double with two outs in the bottom of the 13th inning that lifted Colorado.

The Pirates led 7-2 in the sixth before the Rockies rallied.

Neifi Perez singled home the tying run in the ninth.

Todd Helton hit a leadoff single in the 13th and beat the relay home on Reed's double.

Jose Guillen, who had a career-high four hits, and Al Martin each homered for Pittsburgh. Guillen also threw out Perez at third base from the base of the wall in right for his 12th outfield assist.

Pirates leadoff man Tony Womack had two hits and also set a major league record for consecutive at-bats without grounding into a double play. He has gone 889, breaking the mark of 887 by Brooklyn's Pete Reiser set in 1946.

Braves 3, Reds 2 (10)

Ozzie Guillen singled home the tiebreaking run with two outs in the top of the 10th inning.

Guillen's third hit sent the Reds to their 10th defeat in 11 games. Cincinnati lost for the second straight day in 10 innings, with Stan Belinda (4-8) taking the loss both times.

Astros 9, Marlins 1

Moises Alou, Jeff Bagwell and Derek Bell each homered to back Jose Lima's six-hitter at the Astrodome.

Alou had four hits for Houston. A day earlier, his 25th home run ruined San Diego closer Trevor Hoffman's streak of 41 straight saves.

Lima (9-6) struck out six and walked none. Florida starter Brian Meadows (9-8) allowed seven runs and left with a strained groin after giving up two hits to start the fifth inning.

AMERICAN LEAGUE

Devil Rays 11, Oakland 5

Wade Boggs hit a two-run homer and later passed Babe Ruth for 33rd place on the career hits list as host Tampa Bay won its team-record fifth straight game.

Mike Blowers and Miguel Tejada homered for Oakland, which lost its season-high seventh in a row.

Boggs was lifted for pinch-runner Bobby Smith following his final hit and received a rousing standing ovation as he left the field.

Bryan Rekar (1-2) earned his first victory since June 21, 1997.

Blake Stein (4-6) took the loss despite striking out four batters in the fourth inning.

Oakland dropped three games at Baltimore and was swept in a four-game set against the Devil Rays during their trip.

Angels 6, Royals 1

Tim Salmon, Cecil Fielder and Phil Nevin each homered as Anaheim won on the road in Monday's only other AL game.

Garret Anderson of the Angels doubled to extend his career-high hitting streak to 24 games. He tied Boston's Nomar Garciaparra for the longest string in the AL this season.

Allen Watson (4-6) won for the first time since May 13, teaming with Shigetoshi Hasegawa on a four-hitter. The Royals lost for the seventh time in 10 games.

Angels closer Troy Percival, leading the league with 29 saves, was cleared to pitch, but did not appear. He spent Saturday night in a hospital after complaining of dizziness for the third time in three days.

AMERICAN LEAGUE

Oakland 100 002 200—5 9 2
Tampa Bay 020 050 04x—11 11 2
Stein, Groom (5), Fetters (7), Mohler (8) and Macfarlane; Rekar, White (7), Aldred (7), Mecir (8), R.Hernandez (9) and DiFelice. W—Rekar, 1-2. L—Stein, 4-6. HRs—Oakland, Blowers (8), Tejada (4). Tampa Bay, Boggs (6).

Anaheim 032 000 010—6 9 0
Kansas City 000 100 000—1 4 0
Watson, Hasegawa (6) and Nevin, Rapp, Haney (7) and Fasano. W—Watson, 4-6. L—Rapp, 9-10. Sv—Hasegawa (2). HRs—Anaheim, Fielder (17), Salmon (16), Nevin (7)

NATIONAL LEAGUE

Florida 000 010 000—1 6 1
Houston 500 030 10x—9 14 0
Meadows, Dempster (5) and Redmond, Lima and Ausmus. W—Lima, 9-6. L—Meadows, 9-8. HRs—Houston, De.Bell (15), Bagwell (22), Alou (26).

Atlanta 010 001 000 1—3 10 0
Cincinnati 000 000 110 0—2 6 1
(10 innings) Glavine, Seanez (9) and J.Lopez, Edd.Perez (10); Remlinger and Taubensee, Garcia (8). W—Seanez, 2-0. L—Belinda, 4-8. Sv—Ligtenberg (14).

Chicago 000 002 040—6 7 0
Arizona 000 020 000—2 3 1
Trachsel, Mulholland (9) and Houston; Blair and Fabregas, Miller (8). W—Trachsel, 10-5. L—Blair, 4-15. HRs—Chicago, Sosa 2 (40).

Pittsburgh 311 020 000 000 0—7 18 0
Colorado 010 102 201 000 1—8 16 1
(13 innings)
Van Poppel, Dessens (7), Rincon (7), Mr.Williams (7) and Kendall; Brownson, B.M Jones (5), Dipoto (7) and Manwaring, J.Reed (7). W—Leskanic, 5-3. L—McCurry, 0-1. HRs—Pittsburgh, J.Guillen (8), A.Martin (10). Colorado, L.Walker (12), Castilla 2 (35).

American League

East Division	W	L	Pct.	GB
New York	73	26	.737	—
Boston	60	43	.582	15
Baltimore	52	53	.495	24
Toronto	52	54	.491	24½
Tampa Bay	41	62	.398	34
Central Division				
Cleveland	59	45	.567	—
Minnesota	48	55	.466	10½
Kansas City	46	58	.442	13
Chicago	45	59	.433	14
Detroit	44	59	.427	14½
West Division				
Anaheim	57	47	.548	—
Texas	56	48	.538	1
Seattle	48	56	.461	9
Oakland	46	58	.442	11

National League

East Division	W	L	Pct.	GB
Atlanta	70	36	.660	—
New York	54	48	.529	14
Philadelphia	54	49	.524	14½
Montreal	40	65	.381	29½
Florida	38	68	.358	32
Central Division				
Houston	62	43	.590	—
Chicago	60	46	.566	2½
Milwaukee	53	52	.505	9
St. Louis	49	55	.471	12½
Pittsburgh	49	57	.462	13½
Cincinnati	46	60	.434	16½
West Division				
San Diego	69	36	.657	—
San Francisco	56	49	.533	13
Los Angeles	54	51	.514	15
Colorado	47	59	.443	22½
Arizona	37	68	.352	32

MAJOR LEAGUE LEADERS

AMERICAN LEAGUE

BATTING—BWilliams, New York, .355; TWalker, Minnesota, .352; IRodriguez, Texas, .340; Segui, Seattle, .331; MVaughn, Boston, .328; Stairs, Oakland, .326; HMorris, Kansas City, .324.

RUNS—Griffey Jr, Seattle, 89; Durham, Chicago, 80; Thome, Cleveland, 78; ARodriguez, Seattle, 77; DJeter, New York, 75; Grieve, Oakland, 74; Edmonds, Anaheim, 73; Knoblauch, New York, 73; JuGonzalez, Texas, 73.

RBI—JuGonzalez, Texas, 116; Belle, Chicago, 91; Griffey Jr, Seattle, 91; RPalmeiro, Baltimore, 87; ARodriguez, Seattle, 84; MRamirez, Cleveland, 82; Thome, Cleveland, 80.

HITS—Erstad, Anaheim, 132; ARodriguez, Seattle, 132; Higginson, Detroit, 129; IRodriguez, Texas, 127; O'Neill, New York, 124; MVaughn, Boston, 123; JuGonzalez, Texas, 123; Griffey Jr, Seattle, 123.

HOME RUNS—Griffey Jr, Seattle, 40; RPalmeiro, Baltimore, 33; ARodriguez, Seattle, 31; JuGonzalez, Texas, 31; Belle, Chicago, 31; Canseco, Toronto, 29; Thome, Cleveland, 28.

STOLEN BASES—Henderson, Oakland, 43; Lofton, Cleveland, 31; Stewart, Toronto, 30; ARodriguez, Seattle, 28; TGoodwin, Texas, 28; BLHunter, Detroit, 25; Durham, Chicago, 24; Offerman, Kansas City, 24.

PITCHING (12 Decisions)—DWells, New York, 12-2, .857, 3.68; PMartinez, Boston, 14-3, .824, 2.59; Cone, New York, 14-3, .824, 3.44; Rogers, Oakland, 10-4, .714, 2.90; Irabu, New York, 9-4, .692, 3.19; Colon, Cleveland, 11-5, .687, 2.74; Wakefield, Boston, 11-5, .687, 4.23.

STRIKEOUTS—RJohnson, Seattle, 201; PMartinez, Boston, 165; CFinley, Anaheim, 145; Clemens, Toronto, 144; Erickson, Baltimore, 129; Cone, New York, 128; Colon, Cleveland, 118; Sele, Texas, 118.

SAVES—Percival, Anaheim, 29; Gordon, Boston, 28; MRivera, New York, 27; Wetteland, Texas, 27; MJackson, Cleveland, 25; RaMyers, Toronto, 25; JMontgomery, Kansas City, 24; Aguilera, Minnesota, 24.

NATIONAL LEAGUE

BATTING—Kendall, Pittsburgh, .340; Bichette, Colorado, .336; LWalker, Colorado, .335; DeBell, Houston, .330; Olerud, New York, .329; Morandini, Chicago, .328; Castilla, Colorado, .327.

RUNS—ChJones, Atlanta, 86; GVaughn, San Diego, 83; Biggio, Houston, 83; McGwire, St. Louis, 82; Glanville, Philadelphia, 80; Sosa, Chicago, 77; Bagwell, Houston, 76.

RBI—Sosa, Chicago, 102; McGwire, St. Louis, 98; Castilla, Colorado, 97; GVaughn, San Diego, 89; Alou, Houston, 88; Bichette, Colorado, 88; Galarraga, Atlanta, 86.

HITS—Bichette, Colorado, 148; Castilla, Colorado, 138; Glanville, Philadelphia, 137; DeBell, Houston, 137; Biggio, Houston, 133; VGuerrero, Montreal, 131; ChJones, Atlanta, 128.

HOME RUNS—McGwire, St. Louis, 44; Sosa, Chicago, 40; GVaughn, San Diego, 37; Castilla, Colorado, 35; Galarraga, Atlanta, 33; ChJones, Atlanta, 26; Alou, Houston, 26.

STOLEN BASES—Womack, Pittsburgh, 40; EcYoung, Los Angeles, 33; Renteria, Florida, 32; Biggio, Houston, 32; Floyd, Florida, 24; QVeras, San Diego, 19; Clayton, St. Louis, 19.

PITCHING (12 Decisions)—KBrown, San Diego, 12-3, .800, 2.61; Glavine, Atlanta, 14-4, .778, 2.68; GMaddux, Atlanta, 14-4, .778, 1.59; Gomes, Philadelphia, 9-3, .750, 3.60; Ashby, San Diego, 14-5, .737, 2.49; ALeiter, New York, 10-4, .714, 1.97; Millwood, Atlanta, 11-5, .687, 4.19.

STRIKEOUTS—Schilling, Philadelphia, 209; Wood, Chicago, 173; KBrown, San Diego, 159; Stottlemyre, St. Louis, 147; GMaddux, Atlanta, 136; Dreifort, Los Angeles, 125; Nomo, New York, 122.

SAVES—Hoffman, San Diego, 33; Beck, Chicago, 31; Shaw, Los Angeles, 30; Nen, San Francisco, 27; Urbina, Montreal, 23; BWagner, Houston, 22; MLeiter, Philadelphia, 20; JFranco, New York, 20.

Chasing Roger Maris' record of 61 home runs in 1961

Game	Maris	McGwire	Griffey	Sosa
104th	40	44	40	37
105th	40	–	–	38
106th	41	–	–	40

Maris hit his 44th HR in Game 118

Hamm leads US women to soccer gold

Cuban cyclist goes missing; paralyzed gymnast's parents confident of miracle

GOODWILL GAMES

UNIONDALE (AP) – Mia Hamm continued scoring and the US women's soccer team continued its string of firsts.

With Hamm scoring both goals, the United States beat China 2-0 Monday night to win the gold medal in the debut of soccer at the Goodwill Games.

The US women's soccer team also won the first gold medal at the Olympics and the world championships.

The US had an 11-2 advantage in shots on goal over China and extended its domestic winning streak to 38 games before a crowd of 11,307 at Mitchel Field. It was the largest crowd so far at a Goodwill Games event.

While it was a relatively light day for sports, there was plenty of action away from the arenas.

Ivan Dominguez, a member of the Cuban cycling team, was reported missing after failing to return home with the squad.

Games officials and members of the Cuban delegation said Dominguez was last seen Sunday night when he left the team's hotel.

New York police, the State Department and the Immigration and Naturalization Service all said they had no information.

Meanwhile, the parents of paralyzed Chinese gymnast Sang Lan said they were confident their daughter would compete again.

"I am sure she will be back to the competition circle because she is very courageous and with the excellent medical (care), the doctors and hospitals in America, I am sure she will one day be back to the contest," said Sang Shisheng, her father.

Doctors, however, said Sang's condition had not changed.

Norway defeated Denmark 4-2 in a shootout for the soccer bronze medal after a 1-1 tie in regulation.

The Americans, who beat China 2-1 for the gold at the 1996 Olympics, improved to 11-3-4 against the Chinese and remain unbeaten in their last nine meetings.

Hamm's 97th international goal in the 87th minute was an unassisted blast from 35 yards that curled into the back of the net over the head of China goalie Zhao Yan.

Hamm scored her first goal in the 66th minute on an assist from Kristine Lilly. She scored on a breakaway from 14 yards, beating Zhao into the left corner of the net.

Hamm tied teammate Michelle Akers with 97 career goals and finished with five goals in two games.

"Mia Hamm turned in a Michael Jordan-like performance tonight," US coach Tony DiCicco said. "In fact, I think China took the game over and had more quality chances than we did, but then Mia scored the brilliant goal."

The US team last lost on home soil to defending World Cup champion Norway on Feb. 4, 1996 in Jacksonville, Fla.

The Goodwill Games boxing tournament began, and an American scored a quick upset.

Bantamweight Antonio Rodriguez of Waianae, Hawaii, outpointed world championship bronze medalist Soner Karaaoz of Turkey 9-1 in the quarterfinals. Other American winners included heavyweight DaVarryl Williamson of Aurora, Colorado and welterweights Miguel Espino and Larry Mosely.

US body won't enforce doping suspensions

INDIANAPOLIS (Reuters) – The US ruling body of track and field expressed outrage on Monday over the temporary doping suspensions of world record shot putter Randy Barnes and former 100 meters Olympic bronze medalist Dennis Mitchell, and said it would not enforce them.

"USATF is concerned and dismayed that the IAAF chose to temporarily suspend two American athletes on the basis of unproven allegations that they have committed a doping offense," USA Track & Field said in a statement from chief executive officer Craig Masback.

"USATF objects to the IAAF suspensions, and will not enforce them."

The statement did not name Barnes and Mitchell, but various broadcast reports have quoted an official of the International Amateur Athletic Federation as saying in Monaco that the two had failed out-of-competition 'A' tests and were suspended pending testing of 'B' samples.

The official was reported as saying Barnes tested positive for a banned nutritional supplement and Mitchell for an artificially high level of testosterone.

The IAAF has not officially announced the suspensions.

Barnes could face a lifetime ban as a second-time offender because he was suspended for two years after testing positive for a steroid in Sweden in 1990.

"Pursuant to the Amateur Sports Act of 1978, US athletes are entitled to a full and fair hearing prior to being declared ineligible to compete. USATF has on several occasions informed the IAAF of its obligations under the Amateur Sports Act," the USATF statement continued.

"Therefore we are outraged that the IAAF knowingly breached our confidentiality rules, which were put in place to protect those ultimately determined to be innocent.

"As is the case with all athletes, these athletes will receive the full support of USATF until such time as it is determined that they have committed a doping offence.

"USATF was one of the first sports organizations to institute aggressive and comprehensive in-competition and out-of-competition drug-testing programs."

Australia "gobsmacked" by Samaranch drug stand

Australian Sports Minister Andrew Thomson said yesterday he was "gobsmacked" by reports that Olympics chief Juan Antonio Samaranch had urged the legalization of some performance-boosting drugs.

Thomson said he would contact Samaranch to seek clarification, but that Australia would continue its tough stand against drugs ahead of the 2000 Olympic Games in Sydney.

"It just leaves me gobsmacked, to use an Australian expression," he told Australian Broadcasting Corp radio.

"But let me be blunt, the Australian government will do everything we can to stop cheating in sport.

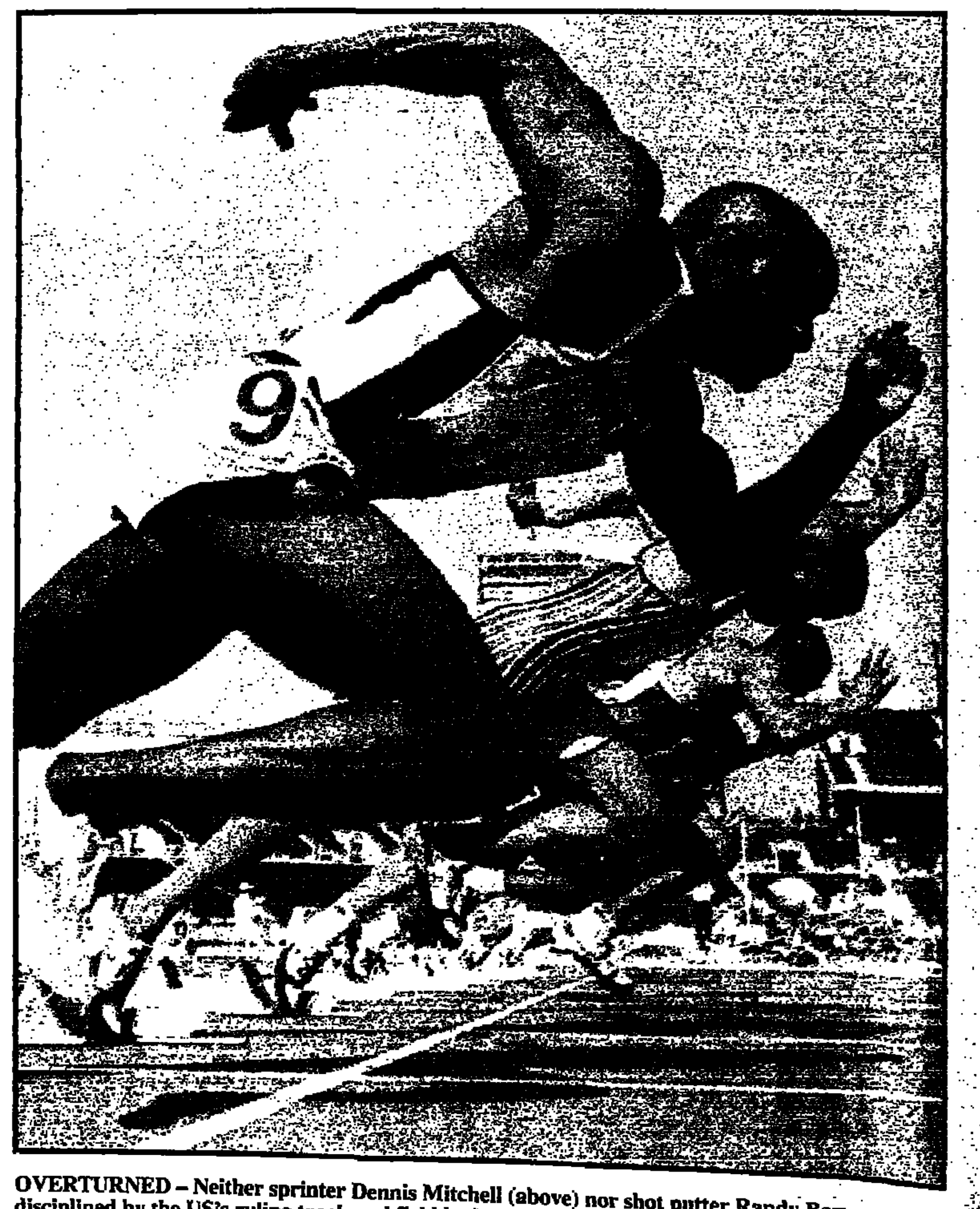
"Doping, that is taking drugs in order to enhance one's performance, in order to cheat on one's competitors – that's exactly as I describe, it's cheating."

The Spanish daily *El Mundo* on Sunday quoted Samaranch as saying in an interview: "Anything that doesn't adversely affect the health of the athlete, for me, isn't doping."

Samaranch is the International Olympic Committee president.

Thomson questioned the accuracy of the reports of Samaranch's comments, saying they contrasted with the Olympic chief's strong stand against drug use during a recent visit to Australia. To be frank, I burst into laughter. I thought this couldn't be true," he said.

"If true, it's the most extraordinary thing anyone's ever said in elite sport. It's too bizarre to be true."



OVERTURNED – Neither sprinter Dennis Mitchell (above) nor shot putter Randy Barnes will be disciplined by the US's ruling track and field body for alleged doping offenses.

(Reuters)

CRITICS' CHOICE

CLASSICAL MUSIC

MICHAEL AJZENSTADT

Renowned bass Paolo Montarsolo directs Rossini's *Il barbiere di Siviglia* for the Israel Vocal Arts Institute, with Dan Etinger as the barber of the title. Tonight at 8 at the Israel Music Conservatory in Tel Aviv with a repeat performance on August 7 at 1 p.m.

Violinist David Bartov is one of many musicians playing today at the evening concert (9:05) at the Kfar Blum Chamber Music Festival where the program includes music by Jolivet, Vaughan Williams, Schumann, Gounod and others.

FILM

ADINA HOFFMAN

★★★ **HE GOT GAME** – In Spike Lee's new film, basketball is depicted as nothing less than the physical embodiment of the American dream – since talent, determination and desire on the court can mean glory and riches for anyone, no matter his color or class.

The director's relation to that myth, though, is never straightforward, for better and for worse: is it a dangerous, corrupting myth? A necessary, hope-giving myth?

As often in a Lee movie, it's not always clear where thoughtful ambiguity gives way to muddy ideas, where the display of genuine feeling turns into melodramatic manipulation and where the filmmaker's angry radicalism degenerates into the anglings of a cynical entrepreneur. While this picture is riddled with conceptual problems and, more seriously, marred by lousy technique, it also features occasional bursts of sentiment so strong and raw, it subverts a more formal critique.

Violinist David Bartov plays at the Kfar Blum chamber-music festival.

With Denzel Washington, who brings a brooding wisdom to the role of a convicted murderer whose basketball-star son refuses to acknowledge his father. In his acting debut, the Milwaukee Bucks guard Ray Allen has an unassuming, slightly stiff presence that is also surprisingly effective. (Children under 17 not admitted without an adult.)

ENTERTAINMENT

HELEN KAYE

Jazz and professional story tellers (in Hebrew) are part of *On the Terrace* summer fun on the terrace at Beth Hatefutsoth on the pretty Tel Aviv University campus. The NIS 40 ticket covers the first drink. Tonight at 7.

RADIO

■ VOICE OF MUSIC

6:05 Vivaldi: Concerto for 2 Trumpets and Strings; Mozart: Concerto for 3 Pianos and Orchestra K 242; Beethoven: Wind Sextet op 71
7:07 Schubert: Variations on an Original Theme op 35; L.Mozart: Sinfonia da camera; Smetana: Vysehrad for Orchestra
8:05 Bruch: Violin Concerto no 1; Prokofiev: The Tale of the Stone Flower
9:05 Haydn: String Quartet in C major op 76 no 3 "Kaiser"; Haydn: Symphony no 98; Verdi: String Quartet in E minor; Mozart: Piano Concerto no 15 K450; Copland: Appalachian Spring; Britten: Simple Symphony
12:00 Light Classical - works by Robert Schumann
13:00 Artist of the Week - Winton Marsalis, trumpet. Jazz with the Winton Marsalis Quartet
14:06 Keys
16:00 Works by George Gershwin
17:00 Kol Israel Galilee Music Days, 1998 - live from Kfar Blum. Haydn: Trio; Stravinsky: L'Histoire du Soldat; Shostakovich: String Quartet no 9; Rimsky-Korsakov: Quintet
20:05 Golden Generation – Otto Klemperer, conductor. Beethoven: Ah, perfido op 65; Falla: Noches en los jardines de Espana; Bartok: Viola Concerto
21:05 Upper Galilee Music Days, 1998 - live from Kfar Blum. Daniel-Lasir: Suite; Hahn: Portraits de peintres for Piano ; Vaughn-Williams: from Blake Songs for Voice and Oboe; Jolivet: Chant de Linos; Chausson: Piano Quartet op 30

■ RADIOWEST

CNN news on the hour followed by RadioWest local news

6:00 Morning Drive till 9:00 – Music with David Starck
7:30 English Newspaper Headlines
7:45 Sports Update
8:08 Lions Trust Financial Update
9:00 Morning Brunch (till 12:00) – '80s-'90s Music with Sharon Wagner
10:00 Financial Forum
12:00 Head to Head – Political Forum with Charlie Levine and Dr. Tom Gumpel
13:00 Windows on the World
13:30 Pick of the Hits
15:30 Afternoon Drive (till 18:00) – with Mike Reinis
17:45 Sports Update
18:00 Barak Moore Show – Call in
19:00 Blues Block
20:45 Sports Roundup with Jerusalem Post Sports Editor Ori Lewis
21:00 Gesher presents "The Great Divide" – Panel Discussion
22:00 WestRocks with David Susskauer
1:00 Late Night Music

■ BBC WORLD SERVICE

6:00 Proms '98
6:05 World Business Report
6:15 Sports Roundup
6:30 Proms '98 (cont'd)
6:45 Proms '98 (cont'd)
7:00 The World Today
7:30 Outlook
7:55 Take Five
8:00 The World Today
8:30 One Planet
9:00 News
9:15 Insight
9:30 Sports International
10:00 News
10:15 Off the Shelf: Stories By Nadine Gordimer – "Jump," part 2
10:30 Meridian Live
11:00 News
11:10 Pause For Thought
11:15 Westway
11:30 Everywoman
12:00 News
12:05 World Business Report
12:15 The Farming World
12:30 Private Lives (BBC English)
12:45 Sports Roundup
13:00 Newsdesk
13:30 One Planet
14:00 Newsdesk
14:30 Sports International
15:00 News
15:05 World Business Report
15:15 Britain Today
15:30 Science Feedback
15:45 Sports Roundup
16:00 Newshour
17:00 News
17:05 Outlook
17:30 Megamix
18:00 News
18:05 Sports Roundup
18:15 Performance
18:30 Everywoman
19:00 Europe Today
19:30 World Business Report
19:45 Britain Today
20:00 News
20:15 Insight
20:30 F.O.O.C.
20:45 Sports Roundup
21:00 Newsdesk
21:30 The Works
22:00 News
22:01 Outlook
22:25 Pause For Thought
22:30 Multitrack: X-Press
23:00 Newshour
00:00 News

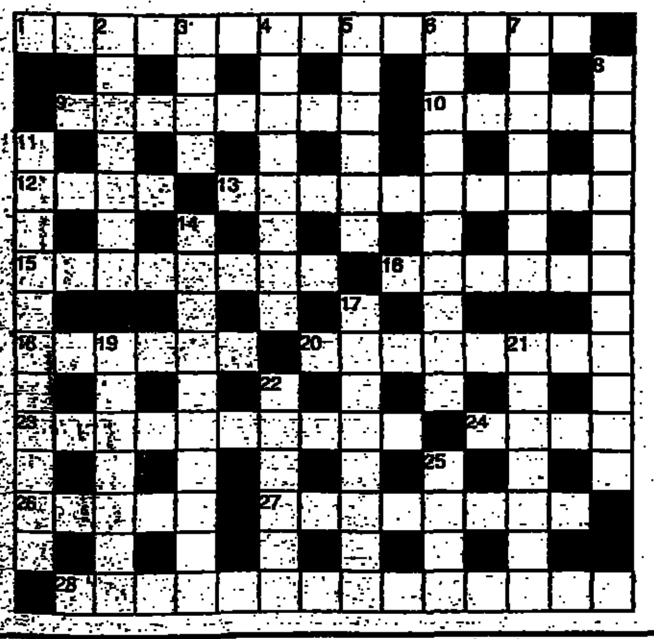
CRYPTIC CROSSWORD

ACROSS

1 Depravity of awfully tense renegades (14)
9 Ernie? (8)
10 Land in Lake Nyasa (5)
12 Spectators' entrance (4)
13 Full details of the election results (3,3,4)
15 One who has it coming to him (8)
16 The said clergyman's gun (6)
18 Half a dozen are fit and can work in practice (6)
20 The way one had a restless desire to have it fastened (8)
23 Pensive, but not empty-headed, so to speak (10)
24 A giant in excited eagerness (4)
26 Fixes on the ends of one's fingers (5)
27 Used in the kitchen to get grime off? (3-5)
28 In bodywork, they're used extensively (5,9)

DOWN

2 Shrewd costing arrangements (7)
3 Swelling point at which a curve cuts itself (4)
4 One should not forget what this is for (8)
5 I can't rewrite another name on the container (3-3)
6 The bare truth (5,5)
7 Nun rubs developing inflammation (7)
8 Wet pets? (4,3,4)
11 Exasperating and making it worse? (11)
14 Scientists' big stool is collapsing (10)
17 Nervously tense when hung by the neck! (6,2)
19 Do away with boil, has to be removed (7)
21 Healthy principles of said call-girl (7)
22 Goddess in Attica then Egypt (6)
25 Mean-sounding manner (4)



SOLUTIONS

D	I	S	T	R	A	C	T		J	A	S	P	A	R
A		O		O		O				P		E		E
H	A	N	D	S	O	M	E		S	P	A	R	T	A
L		N		I		B		E		E		S		R
I	N	E	L	E	G	A	N	T		N	E	P	A	L
A		T				T		N		D		I		A
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S		M		A						G		E		P
C	H	A	G	R	I	N		L	I	E	D			
R		C		A		O		I				S		B
A	B	E	A	M		R	E	G	U	L	A	T	O	R
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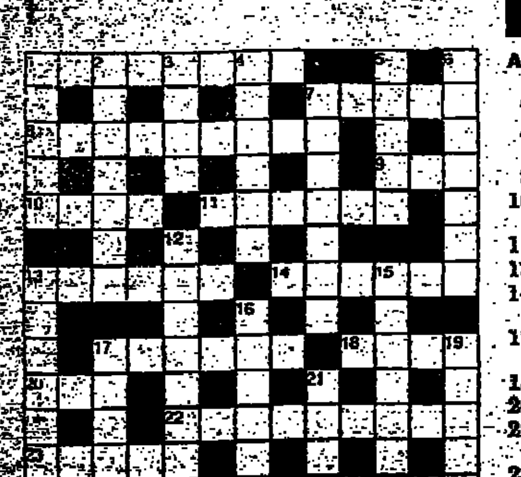
N		T		N				E		D		K		H
G	R	E	E	T	S		C	R	A	S	S	E	S	T

Yesterday's Quick Solution
ACROSS: 1 Cannes, 4 Sells, 8 Noted, 9 Adverse, 10 Reigned, 11 Reed, 12 Sec, 14 Ogre, 15 Over, 18 Rug, 21 Alto, 23 Refusal, 25 Satiate, 26 Emend, 27 Nylon, 28 Orange.

DOWN: 1 Centre, 2 Nothing, 3 Endanger, 4 Save, 5 Large, 6 Speedy, 7 Hands, 13 Coiffeur, 16 Eastern, 17 Raisin, 19 Greed, 20 Pledge, 22 Total, 24 Dawn.

QUICK CROSSWORD



ACROSS

1 Pulling along (8)
7 Aviates (5)
8 S American country (9)
9 Glacial (3)
10 Irish parliament (4)
11 Ski-race (6)
13 Purchasing (6)
14 Equipping with weapons (6)
17 European country (6)
18 Egg-shaped (4)
20 Greyish-brown (3)
22 Irregular fighter (9)
23 Zest (5)
24 Execration (8)

DOWN

1 Patron saint of Wales (5)
2 Regular payment (7)
3 Stare (4)
4 Provoke (6)
5 Musical note (5)
6 Catching sight of (7)
7 Lack of success (7)
12 Experience (7)
13 Dressing (7)
15 Implicate (7)
16 Censer (anag.) (6)
17 Grind together (5)
19 Peruvian camel (5)
21 Worry (4)

TV

■ CHANNEL 1 (11)

6:30 News flash
6:31 News in Arabic
6:45 Good Morning Israel

■ EDUCATIONAL TV (11)

8:00 Vacation TV
9:45 Hobberdy Dick
10:10 Hot Shots
10:35 Deepwater Haven
11:00 Time Exposures
11:25 Hot Science
11:50 Platfus
12:00 Vacation TV
14:30 Star Trek – Deep Space 9
15:15 Spaceship Earth

■ CHANNEL 1 (11)

15:30 Zap Free
15:35 X Men
15:55 Zap
16:05 Lassie
16:30 Zap – at Chevrolet
16:45 Zap – seaside
16:59 New Evening
17:35 Zap Free
17:50 USA High
18:15 News in English

ARABIC PROGRAMS
18:30 Family Matters
19:00 News
HEBREW PROGRAMS
19:30 A Moment In Life
19:35 Gregory Hines
20:00 News
20:10 Talk of the Day
20:25 Are You Being Served?
21:00 News
21:35 Grace Under Fire
22:00 Devarim 1996
23:30 News
00:00 Verse of the Day

■ CHANNEL 2 (22)

5:45 Today's programs
5:55 On the Edge of the Shelf
6:00 Rupert Bear
6:30 Choco with Tel-Ad
6:43 Coffee with Tel-Ad
9:00 The Third Time
9:55 Not Quite Human
10:50 Disney Time
11:40 Empty Nest
12:05 Amazing Stories
12:30 Mega Movie Magic
13:00 My Secret Identity
13:30 Home and Away
14:00 Calculated Risk
14:30 Sesame Street
15:00 Meeting Point
16:00 The Bold and the Beautiful
16:50 Different Driving
17:00 Five with Reshef
17:30 Fresh Prince of Bel-Air
18:00 Lingo
18:30 Ramat Aviv Gimmel
20:00 News
20:30 Bravo
21:45 Bugsy (1991) – big screen version of the fabled gangster with Warren Beatty, Annette Bening, Ben Kingsley and Harvey Keitel
00:00 News
00:05 Bugsy - cont.
00:35 M*A*S*H
1:05 Red Sea Jazz
1:55 Out of This World
2:20 On the Edge of the Shelf

■ JORDAN TV (31) (unconfirmed)

15:00 Holy Koran
15:10 Mr. Bogus
15:30 Oliver Twist
16:00 Musical Magazine
17:00 Oshoa
18:00 Acapulco Bay
19:00 Le Journal
19:15 French Show
19:30 News Headlines
19:35 Partners
20:00 Special Reporter
20:30 Faces and Places
21:00 Local Magazine
21:15 Kung Fu
22:00 News in English
22:30 Miniseries

■ MIDDLE EAST TV (24/27)

14:30 Body Electric
15:00 Basic Training
15:30 The 700 Club
16:00 Larry King
17:00 Gerbert
17:20 Mort & Phil
17:45 Major Dad
18:10 Jack Hanna
18:35 Wait Till You Have Kids
19:00 Showbiz
19:30 World News Tonight (Arabic)
20:00 Stockard Channing
20:25 Newhart
20:50 Movie: Mask
22:40 Charm of Cinema
23:00 The 700 Club
23:30 CNN News

CABLE

■ ITV 3 (33)

16:00 Animation
16:45 Amores
17:30 From Day To Day
18:00 Wiseman of the Generations
19:00 Arabic News
19:30 Telekessel
20:00 Is It Legal?
20:30 Medicine
21:00 News
21:30 Scent of Mint
23:15 Hollywood Sex

■ ETV 2 (23)

15:30 Boogie's Diner
16:00 Summer Studio
16:45 Local Pop
17:00 Color Garden
17:20 Children's Stories in Arabic
17:30 Dear Brother
18:00 Pique Nique
18:30 Cooking with Capriel
19:00 Simply Style
19:30 New Evening
20:00 Mind Your Language
20:30 Tastes
21:00 Airport
22:00 Star Trek - Deep Space 9
22:45 Assignment Adventure

■ CHANNEL 3

7:00 E!:TV: The World's Best Casinos
8:00 Celeste
9:00 One Life to Live (rpt)
9:45 The Young and the Restless (rpt)
10:30 Days of Our Lives (rpt)
11:15 Angels Don't Cry (rpt)
12:00 Ricki Lake
12:45 Hart to Hart
13:30 The John Larroquette Show
14:00 Bewitched
14:25 I Dream of Jeannie
14:50 Days of Our Lives
15:35 Judge Judy
16:00 Angels Don't Cry
16:45 One Life to Live
17:30 Cafe Paris
18:00 Trivia King (rpt)
18:30 Local Broadcast
19:00 The Young and the Restless
19:40 Beverly Hills 90210 (rpt)
20:25 Players
21:10 Profiler
22:00 Suddenly Susan (rpt)
22:30 Seinfeld (rpt)
23:00 Ricki Lake (rpt)
23:45 Sentinel
00:30 Renegade
1:20 Love Boat

■ MOVIE CHANNEL (4)

11:30 Ladies Hairdresser (Hebrew, 1984) – slapstick about a father of seven who is tempted to steal from his employers. With Ze'ev Revah, and Gabi Amrani
13:05 Dick Tracy's Dilemma (1947) – With Ralph Byrd
14:05 Seeing Stars
14:55 Closer and Closer (1995) – When novelist writes a sequel to her serial-killer thriller, she discovers a lunatic is copycatting the book. With Kim Delaney and John York
16:30 The Wharf Rat (1995) – a small-time smuggler looks into the murder of his policeman brother. With Lou Diamond Phillips, Rachel Ticotin and Judge Reinhold
18:05 Primal Secrets (1994) – a mural painter working for a rich widow reconstructs a ballroom just as it was when her daughter died mysteriously. With Meg Tilly and Ellen Burstyn
19:40 Renegade
20:25 A Dangerous Affair (1994) a successful woman is stalked by the man she is trying to break up with. With Connie Sellecca and Gregory Harrison
22:00 Silencers (1995) – a secret agent uncovers an alien plot to take over the planet. With Jack Scalia.
23:40 Buried Secrets (1996) – a girl who moves with her family into an old Gothic home meets the ghost of a girl who used to live there and helps her prove that her mother was murdered. With Tiffani-Amber Thiessen and Tim Matheson
1:10 Gang in Blue (1996) – a black police officer discovers supremacist vigilantes in his department and sets out to expose them. With Mario and Melvin Van Peebles
2:50 Public Enemy No. 1 (1995, 87 mins.)– glamorized tale of Ma Barker and her boys

■ CHILDREN (6)

6:30 Cartoons
8:05 Barney
8:30 Arthur
9:00 The Smurfs
9:35 Ninja Turtles
10:05 Batman and Robin
10:40 Twins of Destiny
11:05 Hot-air Balloon
11:15 Viewers' choice
11:50 Hot-air Balloon
12:00 Sweet Valley High
12:35 Step By Step
13:00 Bobby's World
13:25 Power Rangers
13:45 Helen and the Boys
14:10 Chiquititas
15:00 Ninja Turtles
15:35 Batman and Robin
16:10 Twins of Destiny
16:35 Hot Air Balloon
16:45 Viewers' Choice
17:30 Sweet Valley High
17:45 Hot Air Balloon
18:00 Step by Step (rpt)
18:35 Arthur
19:05 The Smurfs
19:30 Family Matters
19:55 Married with Children
20:20 The Fresh Prince of Bel Air
20:45 Full House
21:10 Beverly Hills 90210

PRIME TIME TV

	1	2	3	4	6	8
19:30	A Moment in Life The Gregory Hines Show		Beverly Hills 90210	Renegade	Family Matters Married with Children	*Life in the Wild*
20:00	News	News				Future Quest
20:30	Talk of the Day Are You Being Served?	Bravo	Players	A Dangerous Affair	The Fresh Prince of Bel Air	Mysteries, Magic and Miracles
21:00	News		Profiler		Full House Beverly Hills 90210	Living to a Hundred
21:30	Grace Under Fire	Bugsy				
22:00	Devarim		Suddenly Susan	Silencers	Raining Stones	Tired of Living, Fearing Death
22:30			Seinfeld			
23:00			Ricki Lake			Africa the Hard Way

■ SECOND SHOWING (6)

22:00 Raining Stones (1993) – bitter-sweet drama by Ken Loach. An unemployed Irish laborer does whatever he can to to buy his daughter a communion dress
23:35 Romance (1930, 76 mins.) – early Greta Garbo romance. An old bishop reminisces about his affair with a flamboyant opera star. Directed by Clarence Brown

■ CHANNEL 8

6:00 Open University
8:00 A Healthy Body (rpt)
8:30 Truth or Dairy (rpt)
9:00 A Whale's Tale (rpt)
9:45 Julius Caesar, part 2
12:00 Darius Milhaud: Les Malheurs D'Orphee
12:35 Endangered Species (rpt)
13:10 Life in the Wild (rpt)
13:40 Future Quest
14:05 Mysteries, Magic and Miracles (rpt)
14:30 Zombies (rpt)
15:20 Voodoo (rpt)
16:10 Hypnosis (rpt)
17:00 Open University: Strangers Abroad; The Mechanical Universe; Nutrition Pathways
19:05 Endangered Species, part 13
19:35 Life in the Wild
20:05 Future Quest: – the possibility of life on other planets
20:35 Mysteries, Magic and Miracles
21:00 Living to a Hundred
21:55 Tired of Living, Fearing Death
22:50 Africa the Hard Way
23:40 Open University: War Series; Government by Consent

■ STAR WORLD (18/15)

6:00 Swiftly Seasoned
6:30 Porridge
7:00 Bergerac
8:00 Oprah Winfrey Show
9:00 Santa Barbara
10:00 The Bold and the Beautiful
10:30 Nanny and the Professor
11:00 Porridge
11:30 Swiftly Seasoned
12:00 Saber Rider and the Star Sheriffs
12:30 Small Wonder
13:00 Batman
13:30 Jack Hanna's Animal Adventures
14:00 The Simpsons
14:30 The Wonder Years
15:00 Baywatch Nights
16:00 The Knock
17:00 NYPD Blue
18:00 Santa Barbara
19:00 The Bold and the Beautiful
19:30 The Simpsons
20:00 Baywatch Nights
21:00 The Knock
22:00 NYPD Blue
23:00 To Serve Them All My Days
00:00 Bergerac
1:00 Aerobics Oz Style
1:30 Terry Toons
2:00 Mighty Thor

■ BBC WORLD (13/14)

News on the hour
6:30 Asia Today
6:45 World Business Report
7:30 Reporters (rpt)
8:30 The Travel Show (rpt)
9:30 Hard Talk (rpt)
10:30 Earth Report: Sustainable Forestry (rpt)
11:30 Reporters (rpt)
12:30 Hard Talk (rpt)
13:30 How Buildings Learn: Built for Change (rpt)
14:00 The World Today
15:30 Sea Trek: the Kelp Forests if California
16:00 World News and Business Report
16:30 The World Today
17:30 One Foot in the Past: Palaces of the Apes (rpt)
18:30 Hard Talk
19:30 The Travel Show (rpt)
20:00 The World Today
21:30 Hard Talk (rpt)
22:30 Decisive Weapons: The Bayonet, Cold Steel – a look at the weapon that made the English army and the role it played in the expansion of the British Empire
23:00 World News and Business Report
23:30 Top Gear
00:10 Europe Direct
1:30 World Business Report
1:45 Asia Today (rpt)
2:05 USA Direct
2:30 Reporters (rpt)
3:30 The Travel Show (rpt)

■ CNN INTERNATIONAL (12)

News throughout the day
6:15 American Edition
6:30 World Report
7:00 CNN This Morning
7:30 Insight
8:00 CNN This Morning
8:30 Moneyline (rpt)
9:00 CNN This Morning
9:30 World Sports
10:00 CNN This Morning
10:30 Showbiz Today
11:00 Larry King (rpt)
12:30 World Sport
13:30 American Edition
13:45 World Report: As They See It
14:30 Business Unusual
15:15 News and Business Asia
16:30 CNN Newsroom
17:30 World Sport
18:30 Style
19:00 Larry King Live (rpt)
20:45 American Edition
21:30 World Business
22:30 Q&A with Riz Khan
23:00 News Europe
23:30 Insight
00:00 World Business
00:30 World Sport
1:00 World View
1:30 Moneyline Newshour
2:30 Showbiz Today

■ SKY NEWS (14/13)

News on the hour
6:30 CBS News
7:30 ABC World News
8:00 Sunrise
12:30 ABC Nightline
15:30 Sky World News
16:30 Question Time
18:30 Sky World News
19:00 Live at Five
21:30 Sportline
22:30 Business Report
23:30 Sky World News
00:00 Prime Time
2:30 CBS Evening News

■ CHANNEL 5 (05)

6:00 Bodies in Motion
16:00 Bodies in Motion
16:30 1998 Xtreme Olympics
18:00 US Beach Volleyball
19:00 Xtreme Sports
19:30 Survivors
20:00 Candid Camera
20:30 Motor Sport
21:00 World's Strongest Man
21:30 MLS
23:00 Game by Order

■ EUROSPORT (15/16)

9:30 Soccer – UEFA Cup
10:30 Cycling
12:00 Golf
13:00 Live Tennis
15:00 Cycling
16:00 Tour de France- live
18:30 Basketball
20:00 Motorsports
21:00 Live Soccer – Champions League
23:00 Cycling
1:00 Motorsports
2:00 Motocross

MOVIES

JERUSALEM
CINEMATHEQUE Midnight in the Garden of Good and Evil 5 - The Wedding Singer 7:45 - La Rubia de Kennedy 9:30 - Drifting Clouds 10 G.G. GIL Jerusalem Mall (Malha) ☎ 6788448 Grease∞The Patriot 11:30 a.m., 2, 4:45, 7:15, 10 - Mouse Hunt 11:30, 2, 4:455 - The Big Lebowski 4:30, 7:15, 10 - Warriors of Virtue∞The Magic Sword *(Hebrew dialogue)* 11:30 a.m., 2, 4:45 - City of Angels 11:30 a.m., 2, 10 - Kissing A Fool 77:15, 10 - Mercury Rising 7:15, 10 - Lethal Weapon IV 11:30 a.m., 2, 4:30, 7:15, 10 - Superboy 11:30 a.m., 2, 4:45, 7:15 JERUSALEM THEATER On Connait La chanson 7 ∞The Spanish Prisoner 9:30 RAV CHEN 1-7 ☎ 6792799 Credit Card Reservations ☎ 6794477 Rav-Mecher Building, 19 Ha'oman St., Talpiot Mulan *(English dialogue)* 7:30, 9:45 - Lost In Space 11 a.m., 1:30, 4:45, 7:15, 9:45 -Armageddon 11 a.m., 1:45, 4:30, 7, 9:45 - Titanic 11, 5, 8:45 - The Horse Whisperer 6:45, 9:45 - Wild Things 7:30, 9:45 - The Wedding Singer∞Flubber 11 a.m., 5 - Mulan *(Hebrew dialogue)* 11 a.m., 1, 5 - Pipi Longstocking 11 a.m., 1, 4:45 MEVASSERET ZION G.G. GIL ☎ 5700868 As Good As It Gets 7:15, 10 - Superboy 11:30 a.m., 4:45 - Lethal Weapon IV 11:30 a.m., 4:45, 7:15, 10 SMADAR ☎ 5618168 Kundun 5 - He Got Game 7:30, 10

TEL AVIV
DIZENGOFF Spanish Prisoner 11 a.m., 1, 3:15, 5:30, 7:45, 10 - On connait la chanson 11, 1, 3:15, 5:30, 7:45, 10 - Warriors of Virtue 11, 1, 3:15, 5:30 - Kissing A Fool 7:45, 10 GAT ☎6967888 The Horse Whisperer 3:15, 6:30, 9:45 GLOBUS ☎6081130/1 Grease∞City of Angels 11:30 a.m., 2, 5, 7:30, 10 - Superboy∞The Magic Sword 11:30 a.m., 2, 5 - City of Angels 11:30 a.m., 2, 5, 7:30, 10 - Mouse Hunt 11:30 a.m. 2, 5, 7:30 - Mercury Rising 7:30, 10 - The Big Lebowski∞Lethal Weapon IV 11:30 a.m., 2, 4:45, 7:15, 10 - The Patriot 11:30 a.m., 2, 5, 7:30, 10 - High Art 7:30, 10 G.G. HOD 1-4 ☎ 5226226 Hod Passage, 101 Dizengoff St. Red Corner∞Lethal Weapon IV 4:45, 7:15, 10 - Live Flesh 5, 7:30, 10 - Mercury Rising 5, 7:30, 10 - Blues Brothers 2000 4:45, 7:15, 10 - LEV ☎5288288 He Got Game 11 a.m., 1:45, 4:30, 7:15, 10 - Kundun 11:30 a.m., 5, 10 - Good Will Hunting 1:45, 7, 9:45 - Sweet Hereafter 11:30 a.m., 7:30, 10 - Go Now 2:30, 7:30 - Night Train 5 - Welcome to the Doll House 11 a.m., 2, 4:15 LEV AVIV ☎6417148 He Got Game 11 a.m., 1:45, 4:30, 7:15, 10 - Kundun 2:30, 5, 7:15, 10 - Welcome to the Doll House 11:15, 2:30, 5, 7:30 - Sweet Hereafter 11:30 a.m., 2:30, 5, 10 - Brassed Off 11 a.m., 7:30, 10 - Carla's Song 11:30 a.m., 2:30, 5, 7:30, 10 LIMOR ☎6968084 Shall We Dance 6, 9:45 - Empire of the Senses 8 G.G. PE'ER ☎5442141 City of Angels∞High Art 7:30, 10 - Grease 11:30 a.m., 7:30, 10 - Mouse Hunt∞The Magic Sword *(Hebrew dialogue)* 11:30 a.m., 5 - The Big Lebowski 4:45, 7:15, 10 - Superboy 11:30 a.m., 5 - Lethal Weapon IV 11:30 a.m., 4:45, 7:15, 10 RAV-CHEN ☎ 5282288 Dizengoff Circle Mulan *(English dialogue)* 7:30, 9:45 - Mulan *(Hebrew dialogue)* 11 a.m., 2:30, 5 - The Wedding Singer 11 a.m. - As Good As It Gets 2, 4:30, 7:15 9:45 - Primary Colors 2, 4:30, 7:15, 9:45 - Armageddon 11 a.m., 1:30, 4:15, 7, 9:45 - Wild Things 7:30, 9:45 - Lost in Space 11 a.m., 2:15, 4:45, 7:15, 9:45 - Pipi Longstocking 11 a.m., 2:30, 5 - Flubber 11 a.m. RAV-OR 1-5 ☎ 5102674 Opera House Jackie Brown∞Boogie Nights 4:15, 7, 9:45 - Lost in Space 4:45, 7:15, 9:45 - Great Expectations∞The Full Monty 5, 7:30, 9:45 - Titanic 5:15, 9 - As Good As It Gets Fri. 9:45, 12:15 a.m. SIX MAGNIFICENT ☎6888665 Looking for Lola 10 a.m., 12 noon, 2, 4, 6, 8, 10, 12 midnight - Men Always Lie 10:15 a.m., 12:15 a.m., 2:15, 4:15, 6:15, 8:15, 10:15, 12:15 a.m. - Brat 10 a.m., 12 noon, 2, 4, 6, 8, 10, 12 midnight - Mercury Rising 10 a.m., 12 noon, 2, 4, 6, 8, 10 - The Break Up 12:15 a.m. - Scared Silly 10:15 a.m., 12:15 a.m., 2:15, 4:15, 6:15, 8:15, 10:15 - Tromeo and Juliet 12:15 a.m. - Sinbad: The Battle of the Dark Knights 10:15 a.m., 12:15 a.m., 2:15, 4:15, 6:15 - Funny Games 8:15, 10:15, 12:15 a.m. TEL AVIV MUSEUM The Hanging Garden 5, 8, 10

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ARAD
STAR ☎9950904 Lost in Space 11:30 a.m., 5:30, 7:45, 10:15 - Good Will Hunting 7:30, 10 - Warriors of Virtue 11:30 a.m., 5:30 - Kissing A Fool 11:30 a.m., 5:30, 7:30, 10

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G.G. GIL ☎ 6729977 City of Angels ∞Grease∞The Patriot 7:30, 10 - Superboy ∞Warriors of Virtue∞The Magic Sword *(Hebrew dialogue)* 11:30 a.m., 5 - Mouse Hunt 11:30 a.m., 5, 7:30 - Red Corner 10 - Lethal Weapon IV 11:30 a.m., 4:45, 7:15, 10 RAV CHEN ☎6711221 Good Will Hunting 7:15, 9:45 - The Horse Whisperer 9:45 - The Wedding Singer ∞Pipi Longstocking 11 a.m., 5 - Great Expectations 11 a.m., 5, 7:30, 9:45 - Armageddon 7, 9:45 - Mulan *(Hebrew dialogue)* 11 a.m., 5, 7:30 - Lost in Space 11 a.m., 4:45, 7:15, 9:45

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COLONY ☎6902666 The Horse Whisperer 6, 9:15 - Primary Colors 5, 7:30, 10:15 DANIEL ☎ 9544044 The Horse Whisperer 6:30, 9:45 - Warriors of Virtue 11:30 a.m., 4:30 STAR ☎ 9589068 Mouse Hunt 3:30 - Armageddon 7:15, 10 - Mulan *(Hebrew dialogue)* 11 a.m., 3:45, 5:30 - Mulan *(English dialogue)* 8, 10 - Pipi Longstocking 11 a.m., 4:15, 6 - Lost in Space 11 a.m., 5:15, 7:30, 10

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GIL ☎ 7408591 Mouse Hunt 11:30 a.m. - Armageddon 7, 10 - The Horse Whisperer 6:45, 10 - Superboy ∞Mulan *(Hebrew dialogue)* 11:30 a.m., 5 - Lost in Space 4:45, 7:15, 10 - The Magic Sword *(Hebrew dialogue)* 11:30 a.m. - Lethal Weapon IV 4:30, 7:15, 10

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KARMIEL
CINEMA ☎9882521 The Horse Whisperer 9:15 - Armageddon 7, 9:45 - Mulan *(Hebrew dialogue)* 11 a.m., 5, 7:15 - Pipi Longstocking 11 a.m., 5 - Lost in Space 11 a.m., 4:30, 7, 9:30

KFAR SAVA
G.G. GIL ☎7677370 Armageddon 7, 10 - The Patriot 7:30, 10 - Mouse Hunt 11:30 a.m., 2, 5, - City of Angels 7:30, 10 - Mulan *(English dialogue)* 7:30, 10 - Mulan *(Hebrew dialogue)* ∞The Magic Sword *(Hebrew dialogue)* 11:30 a.m., 2, 5 - The Big Lebowski 7:15, 10 - Grease 11:30 a.m., 2, 5, 7:30, 10 - Lethal Weapon IV 11:30 a.m., 2, 4:45, 7:15, 10 - Superboy 11:30 a.m.; 2, 5 - Pipi Longstocking 11:30 a.m., 2, 5

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NAHARIYA
HEICHAL HATARBUT ☎9829933 Titanic 8:30 - Anastasia *(Hebrew dialogue)* 11 a.m., 5

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G.G. GIL 1-4 ☎ 9404729 Lethal Weapon 11:30 a.m., 4:45, 7:15, 9:45 - Mouse Hunt∞Superboy∞The Magic Sword 11:30 a.m., 5 - City of Angels 7:30, 10 - The Big Lebowski∞Good Will Hunting 7:15, 10

NETANYA
G.G. GIL 1-5 ☎ 8628452 Mouse Hunt 11:30 a.m., 5, 7:30 - The Patriot 7:30, 10 - City of Angels 7:30, 10 - The Big Lebowski 7:15, 10 - Warriors of Virtue ∞The Magic Sword *(Hebrew dialogue)* 11:30 a.m., 5 - Lethal Weapon IV 11:30 a.m., 4:45, 7:15, 10 - Superboy 11:30 a.m., 5 RAV CHEN ☎ 8618570 Armageddon 11 a.m., 4, 7, 9:45 - The Horse Whisperer 9:45 - Mulan *(English dialogue)* 7:30 - Mulan *(Hebrew dialogue)* 11 a.m., 1, 5 - Wild Things 7:30, 9:45 - Lost in Space 11 a.m., 4:45, 7:15, 9:45 - Pipi Longstocking 11 a.m., 1, 5

PETAH TIKVA
G.G. GIL 1-6 ☎ 9087989 Grease 11:30 a.m., 5, 7:30 - The Patriot∞City of Angels∞Mulan *(English dialogue)* 7:30, 10 - Mouse Hunt∞Superboy∞Bilbi Longstocking 11:30 a.m., 2, 5 - The Magic Sword∞Mulan *(Hebrew dialogue)* 11:30 a.m., 2, 5 - The Big Lebowski 7:15, 10 - Armageddon 7, 10 - Kissing A Fool 10 G.G. HECHAL ☎ 9317374 The Horse Whisperer 6:30, 9:45 - Warriors of Virtue 11:30 a.m., 4:30 - Lost in Space∞Lethal Weapon IV 11:30 a.m., 7:15, 9:45, 12:30 a.m.

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PARK ☎ 7711321 The Horse Whisperer 6, 9:15 - Great Expectations 7:45, 10:15 - Armageddon 11 a.m., 4, 7, 9:45 - City of Angels 7:45, 10:15 - Anastasia *(Hebrew dialogue)* 11 a.m., 3, 5 - Mulan *(Hebrew dialogue)* ∞The Magic Sword 11 a.m., 3, 5 - Mulan *(English dialogue)* 7:45, 10:15 - Mouse Hunt 11 a.m., 3, 5

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SHOHAM
STAR ☎ 9793834 Primary Colors 7:30, 10 - Anastasia *(Hebrew dialogue)* 11:30 a.m., 5 - Warriors of Virtue 11:30 a.m., 5 - Good Will Hunting 7:30, 10 - Kissing A Fool 11:30 a.m., 5, 7:30, 10

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Sports Editors
Joe Hoffman & Ori Lewis

Scharf names squad for Euro 2000 qualifiers

By ORI LEWIS

Israel coach Shlomo Scharf yesterday began the countdown for the qualifying competition for Euro 2000 by naming a 20-man squad which will on Friday travel to a week-long training camp in Austria.

The squad includes five Maccabi Haifa players and four members of Betar Jerusalem.

Seventeen of the players are Israel based or, as in the case of Avi Nimni and David Amsalem, their position with their respective clubs, Atletico Madrid and Crystal Palace has not yet been finalized.

The three "foreigners" called are Ronnen Harazi (Bursaspor, Turkey), Haim Revivo (Celta Vigo) and Eyal Berkovic (West Ham).

Out of the 20 men, Scharf will *eventually discard two players*, leaving a squad of 18 to face Austria in Israel's opening Group 6 qualifying match on September 5 in Vienna. It is the most crucial fixture for Israel if they are to qualify for the finals taking place in Holland and Belgium.

The other teams in the group are Spain, Cyprus and San Marino.

The squad is: Goalkeepers: Nir Davidovich (Mac. Haifa), Rafi Cohen (Mac. Tel Aviv).

Defenders: Ophir Kopel (Mac. Haifa), Arik Benado (Mac. Haifa), Alon Harazi (Mac. Haifa), Amir Shelah (Bet. J'lem), Yossi Abuksis (Bet. J'lem), Ran Ben-Shimon (Hap. Haifa), David Amsalem (Crystal Palace).

Midfielders: Jan Talesnikov (Bet. J'lem), Walid Bdir (Hap. PT), Eli Abarbanel (Hap. PT), Najwan Grayeb (Hap. Haifa), Ben Lu (Mac. PT), Avi Nimni (Atletico Madrid).

Strikers: Alon Mizrahi (Mac. Haifa), Shai Sivilia (Bet. J'lem), Eli Abarbanel (Hap. PT).

Jan Ullrich of Germany (left) edges out Italian yellow jersey holder Marco Pantani to win the 16th stage of the Tour de France. (Reuters)

Ullrich wins stage but concedes Tour crown

ALBERTVILLE, France (Reuters) – Defending champion Jan Ullrich won the 16th stage of the Tour de France in Albertville yesterday but then conceded his crown to rival Marco Pantani.

"For me he's the best. He has won the Tour de France," the German said, with a big smile on his *face after the 204km stage.*

Pantani, though, is refusing to take anything for granted despite a massive lead of almost six minutes.

"The Tour is not over yet. Jan reacted very well today, it proves what a great champion he is," the Italian said.

Ullrich, who will be the favorite to win Saturday's decisive time trial in Le Creusot, surged after five kms in the Madeleine pass to try and avenge the hard blow he suffered in a poor stage in Les Deux Alpes on Monday.

The move paid off as he snatched his fifth stage win in three Tours, but he could not lose Pantani, who stayed calmly in his wheel for the last 40 kms of the stage, and the two reached Albertville after five hours, [illegible] minutes and 47 seconds.

The last hour of the stage was a perfect summary of this year's race as the leading duo left the rest of the bunch, including American Bobby Julich, trailing by one minute and 48 seconds while other favorites slumped again, losing more time.

Julich was third in the stage with Spain's Fernando Escartin fourth, both 1:48 behind the *leading pair.*

The American kept his second place overall, but Ullrich is now on his heels, a mere eight seconds behind and his rivalry with Pantani looks set to dominate the last few days of the Tour.

Ullrich, who had sunk in the rain and fog between Grenoble and Les Deux Alpes on Monday, took no chances at the start in Vizille.

To fight the cold weather he hates, he sported strappings on both knees and elbow-length gloves.

Former yellow jersey holder Stephane Heulot of France, Ullrich's teammate Ralf Aldag and Kazakh Andrei Teteriouk staged an early breakaway but the real action started in La Madeleine as Ullrich rose and attacked, leaving all the favorites breathless when most were expecting Pantani to charge again.

The Italian, whose lead over Julich at the start was 3:53, was the only rider to react to Ullrich's move.

The two rode for 45 kms side by side, Ullrich looking to salvage some pride with a stage win while Pantani was widening the gap on all his rivals.

"*Today's 143-kms 17th stage from Albertville* to Aix-les-Bains is the last real mountain stage of the Tour with three climbs.

Yesterday saw the release from jail of Bruno Roussel, the director of the Festina team thrown out of this year's Tour for doping.

Roussel was one of three team members placed under investigation on July 17 after confessing that team members and medical staff made doping substances available to riders.

Festina's masseur Willy Voet has already been released from jail while team doctor Eric Ryckaert remains imprisoned.

Roussel's release came on the same day as the director and doctor of the Dutch TVM team – Cees Priem and Alexandrei Mikhailov – were officially placed under investigation on suspicion of breaking the law on doping.

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ISRAEL

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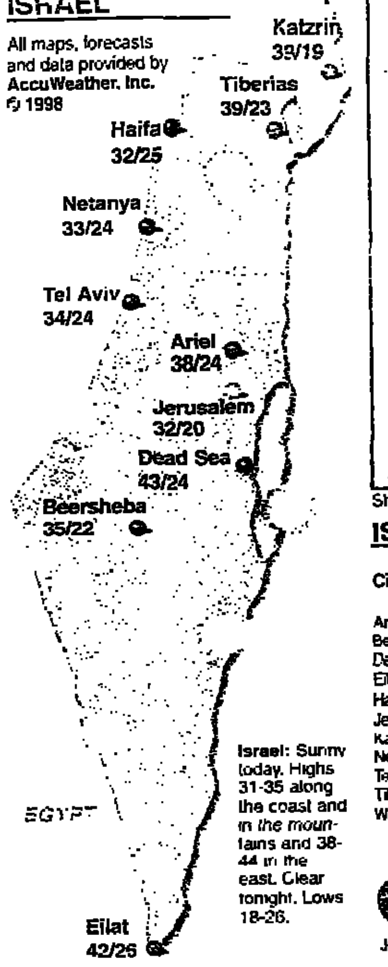
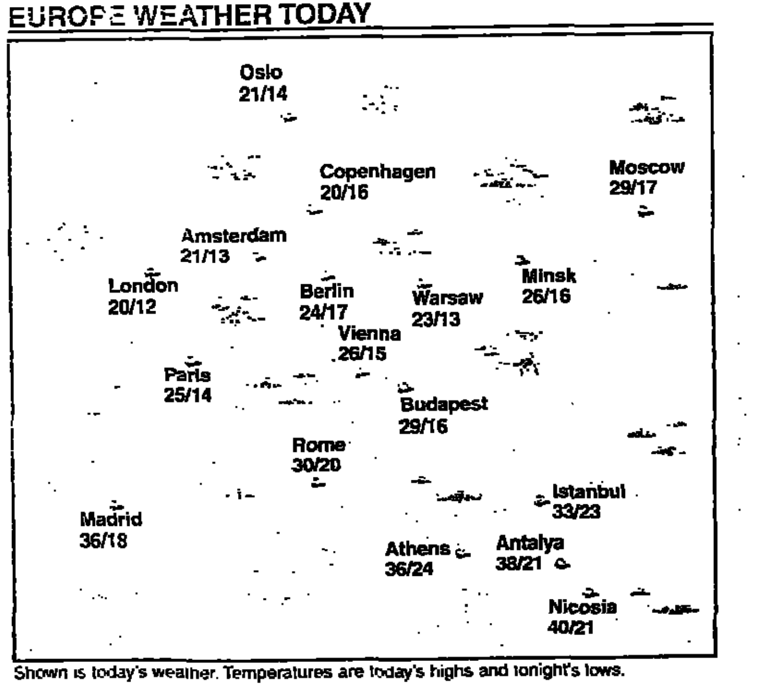


Israel: Sunny today. Highs 31-35 along the coast and in the mountains and 38-44 in the east. Clear tonight. Lows 18-26.

EUROPE WEATHER TODAY



Shown is today's weather. Temperatures are today's highs and tonight's lows.

ISRAEL CITIES

City	Today		Thursday		Friday		Saturday	
	High	Low/W	High	Low/W	High	Low/W	High	Low/W
	C/F	C/F	C/F	C/F	C/F	C/F	C/F	C/F
Ariel	38/100	24/75/s	39/102	23/73/s	39/102	23/73/pc	39/102	24/75/pc
Beersheba	35/95	22/71/s	37/98	22/71/s	35/95	20/68/pc	37/98	22/71/pc
Dead Sea	43/109	24/75/s	45/113	25/77/s	43/109	26/79/pc	44/111	26/79/pc
Eilat	42/107	26/79/s	42/107	26/79/s	43/109	26/79/pc	44/111	27/80/pc
Haifa	32/89	25/77/s	32/89	25/77/s	32/89	25/77/pc	34/93	25/77/pc
Jerusalem	32/89	20/68/s	34/93	20/68/s	32/89	18/64/pc	34/93	20/68/pc
Katzrin	39/102	19/66/s	40/104	20/68/s	37/98	18/64/pc	37/98	18/64/pc
Netanya	33/91	24/75/s	34/93	24/75/s	33/91	24/75/pc	34/93	24/75/pc
Tel Aviv	34/93	24/75/s	34/93	24/75/s	34/93	24/75/pc	35/95	24/75/pc
Tiberias	39/102	23/73/s	41/106	24/75/s	38/100	25/77/pc	38/100	25/77/pc

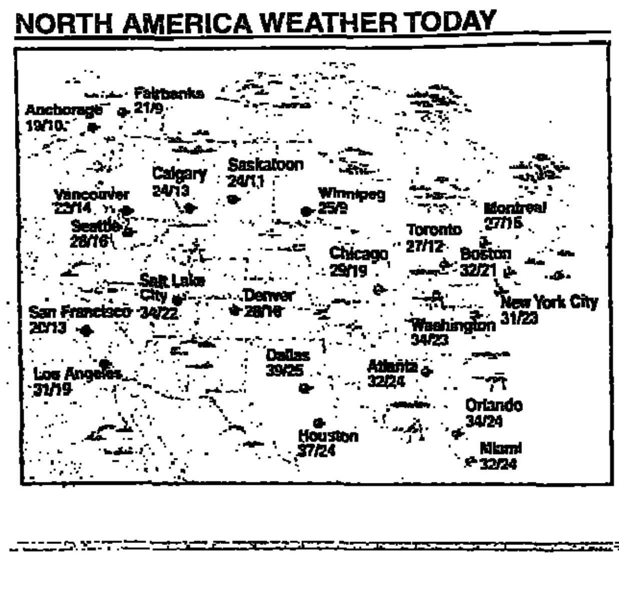
Weather (W): s-sunny, pc-partly cloudy, c-cloudy, sh-showers, t-thunderstorms, r-rain, sf-snow flurries, sn-snow, i-ice.

First	Full	Last	New
July 31	Aug 8	Aug 14	Aug 22

INTERNATIONAL CITIES

City	Today		Thursday		Friday	
	High	Low/W	High	Low/W	High	Low/W
	C/F	C/F	C/F	C/F	C/F	C/F
Amsterdam	21/70	13/55/sh	18/64	11/52/r	18/64	11/52/pc
Beijing	32/89	26/79/s	34/93	26/79/pc	34/93	26/79/pc
Berlin	24/75	17/62/pc	26/79	14/57/r	21/70	13/55/pc
Brussels	23/73	13/55/c	19/66	10/50/c	19/66	10/50/pc
Cairo	37/98	24/75/s	39/102	23/73/s	36/97	23/73/pc
Chicago	29/84	19/66/pc	26/79	16/61/t	25/77	16/61/c
Frankfurt	22/71	17/62/r	27/80	14/57/sh	22/71	12/53/pc
Hong Kong	33/91	27/80/pc	33/91	27/80/sh	32/89	27/80/pc
Johannesburg	23/73	6/43/s	18/64	4/39/pc	20/68	6/43/pc
London	20/68	12/53/sh	19/66	12/53/sh	19/66	11/52/pc
Los Angeles	31/88	19/66/s	33/91	18/64/pc	33/91	18/64/pc
Madrid	36/97	18/64/s	38/100	17/62/s	36/97	19/66/r
Mexico City	26/79	12/53/c	24/75	13/55/pc	24/75	13/55/pc
Montreal	27/80	15/59/sh	22/71	12/53/sh	21/70	12/53/sh
Moscow	29/84	17/62/pc	32/89	22/71/pc	31/88	22/71/pc
New York	31/88	23/73/pc	30/86	21/70/pc	28/82	20/68/sh
Paris	25/77	14/57/sh	19/66	8/46/pc	19/66	10/50/pc
Prague	23/73	13/55/c	28/82	14/57/pc	23/73	11/52/pc
Rio de Janeiro	26/79	19/66/pc	23/73	16/61/pc	23/73	16/61/pc
Rome	30/86	20/68/s	31/88	21/70/s	32/89	22/71/pc
Sydney	13/55	5/41/pc	13/55	4/39/pc	13/55	4/39/s
Tokyo	32/89	25/77/pc	29/84	25/77/sh	29/84	24/75/c
Toronto	27/80	12/53/pc	23/73	11/52/sh	23/73	11/52/pc
Vienna	26/79	15/59/s	30/86	19/66/pc	29/84	18/64/c
Warsaw	23/73	13/55/c	26/79	17/62/pc	27/80	16/61/pc
Washington	34/93	23/73/pc	32/89	22/71/pc	30/86	21/70/sh
Zurich	23/73	15/59/pc	27/80	13/55/pc	22/71	14/57/pc

NORTH AMERICA WEATHER TODAY



England captain combines the best of Atherton and Cronje

NOTTINGHAM (Reuters) – England skipper Alec Stewart is developing a style of captaincy that combines the best elements of his predecessor Mike Atherton and his South African opposite number Hansie Cronje, according to England coach David Lloyd.

Lloyd made it his duty to ask *Stewart what he would like done differently* when he took over from Atherton this season, and says the answer came as a relief.

"He said 'nothing', he told me he was happy with the set-up as Athers had it," Lloyd said after England's eight-wicket win in the fourth Test at Trent Bridge on Monday.

"Alec and Mike have always got along well, and they share similar views on the game. But that is not to say that Alec is not his own man," Lloyd said.

Rousing team talks are already said to have made a difference to the England team's performance and Stewart has made few, if any, tactical mistakes in the field in his first four Tests as full time captain.

Indeed, his brave decision to put South Africa in to bat at Trent Bridge was criticized by most of the British *media only for* England to win against all odds.

It was the ninth time an England captain had asked South African opposition to bat first but the first time a win had resulted since Lord Hawke's triumph at Newlands, Cape Town, in 1896.

"*He's never been afraid to speak* his mind or have the courage of his convictions. We all agreed that it was a bowling day last Thursday, but it was his decision and he would have taken it alone if he had to," Lloyd said.

"His team talks aren't about magic. No one can produce results *out of words.*" "*He stresses the obvious things* in a positive way and is very encouraging to everybody." As to the future, the England coach sees no problem with Stewart's age, 36, and ironically he believes that 28-year-old Cronje has set an example that Stewart will do well to follow.

SUCCESS STORY – Alec Stewart. (Reuters)

"He has a strong, powerful leadership style. What he says goes, although he's always willing to listen. He really is a true captain, a natural leader, and I think Alec is rapidly becoming the same thing."

While Stewart's confidence will undoubtedly have been boosted by Monday's win, he knows it will count for nothing if England don't match expectations in the fifth-Test series decider at Headingley a week on Thursday.

German tax men probing Becker

MUNICH (AP) – German investigators have raided about 30 locations linked to tennis star Boris Becker on suspicion that he evaded taxes on millions of dollars in earnings, a newspaper reported yesterday.

The agents searched offices and apartments of Becker's friends and sponsors on Monday, the *Sueddeutsche Zeitung* said.

Becker and his former manager Ion Tiriac are suspected of evading taxes on millions of dollars of Becker's earnings from 1990 to 1993.

Becker and Tiriac have rejected the accusations ever since they first surfaced in February last year. Prosecutors so far have declined to charge Becker and his former manager, indicating they did not believe they had a strong case.

Tax authorities want to find out how much time Becker spent in Monte Carlo, the tax haven where he officially resided between 1990 and 1993.

Under German law, Becker would have had to spend at least 185 days in Monte Carlo to avoid paying German taxes. The investigators believe he spent most of the time in Germany, according to the report.

Brazil dump coach Zagallo

RIO DE JANEIRO (Reuters) – Brazil have fired World Cup coach Mario Zagallo and his entire management staff and expect to announce a replacement by the end of next month.

Brazilian Football Federation (CBF) president Ricardo Texeira praised Zagallo's staff's efforts at the recent World Cup, where the side lost surprisingly to hosts France in the final, but said on Monday that the time was ripe for a change.

"The management staff's work during the World Cup was excellent. But now we are going to build a new team, that will begin working with their mind set on the 2002 World Cup," Texeira told reporters.

He refused to speculate on who might replace Zagallo but said the new coach would be announced by the end of August.

"We're not going to look at any name independently. We're going to consider the management staff as a team which will need to work with the 2000 Olympics and and the 2002 World Cup in mind," he said.

Brazilian newspapers cited Carlos Alberto Parreira, the former Brazil coach who won the 1994 World Cup and who was fired by Saudi Arabia at the World Cup, as a possible *candidate to* replace Zagallo.

Other candidates included Luis Felipe Scolari, currently training Palmeiras of Sao Paulo, and Vanderlei Luxenburgo who now manages Corinthians, also of Sao Paulo.

Laver suffers stroke

SYDNEY (Reuters) – Australian tennis great Rod Laver suffered a stroke while recording a television interview yesterday but remained conscious and in good spirits, the player's brother Trevor said.

Laver, considered by many the greatest men's tennis player of all time, suffered the stroke on Monday in Los Angeles while recording an interview with cable television network ESPN.

The 59-year-old was taken to UCLA Medical Center. A hospital spokeswoman said Laver's family was with him and had requested that no information about his condition be released.

Trevor Laver told Reuters from his home in Gladstone, Queensland, on Tuesday that his wife had spoken with family members in the US after hearing the news.

"He hasn't lost consciousness at all," Laver, 65, said of his famous brother. "He lost the use of his righthand side, but it has started to come back again.

"He was apparently joking with the people who put him in hospital, so he was still conscious, that's the main thing." He said Laver was to undergo further tests yesterday.

Laver, dubbed the Rockhampton Rocket, is the only player to win the Grand Slam twice, doing so in 1962 and 1969.

In all, he won 11 Grand Slam singles titles, one fewer than countryman Roy Emerson's record total.

Day of the underdog in NatWest Trophy

LONDON (Reuters) – The underdogs had their day in the 60-over NatWest Trophy yesterday, with three of the four quarter-finals producing upsets.

Surrey, Middlesex and Warwickshire, strongly fancied to win their ties, were all heavily beaten by Derbyshire, Hampshire and Leicestershire.

Only Lancashire justified their position as favorites in beating Nottinghamshire at Old Trafford.

Warwickshire, last season's beaten finalists, staggered to 36 for seven against Leicestershire and were dismissed for just 98 runs.

Left-arm paceman Alan Mullally, who was called into England's 13 last week for the fourth Test against South Africa but did not play, did much of the damage by taking five for 18 in his 12 overs.

All-rounder Chris Lewis, left out of England's provisional squad of 37 for next year's World Cup, weighed in with three for 25.

Mullally's victims included West *Indies captain Brian Lara, whose* miserable season continued when he was caught at the wicket for 14.

Leicestershire knocked off the runs for the loss of two wickets, Lara's fellow-Trinidadian Phil Simmons making the winning hit.

County championship leaders Surrey were outplayed at the Oval by Derbyshire, who beat them by five wickets.

Surrey were restricted to 217 for seven, with Test opener Mark Butcher (eight) and Alec Stewart (three) both failing.

Australian opener Michael Slater made 82 in an opening stand of 162 with Kim Barnett as the visitors eased home with five overs to spare.

Slater's compatriot Justin Langer found little support as Middlesex lost to unfancied Hampshire at Lord's by 144 runs.

Langer top scored with 57, but the home side managed no more than 151 all out.

Lancashire were always on course for their target of 250 to beat Nottinghamshire, for whom Australian-born opener Jason Gallian scored 83 against his former county.

Former England captain Michael Atherton continued a good week by *scoring 76, the day after seeing his* country to victory over South Africa. Pakistan's Wasim Akram struck the winning runs in making 37 not out.

The semifinals take place in two weeks' time.

Hapoel Tel Aviv hoping for UEFA Cup success in Helsinki

By OFER RONEN-ABELS

Hapoel Tel Aviv carry a 3-1 lead into their away leg of the UEFA cup tie against Finnpa of Helsinki in the Finnish capital this evening (kick off at 18.30 Israel time).

"The comfortable weather conditions of a mild Finnish summer 20 degrees Celsius will not favor the home side only, as Hapoel's play*ers didn't enjoy last week's heat*" said coach Eli Cohen as his team completed a training session after arriving in Helsinki following their 13-hour journey which included a stopover in Prague.

Davor Rupnick will pass a late fitness test early on today, and *Yaniv Yaron could replace* Avi Azulai in midfield.

The rest of the side seems unchanged from the one which beat the Finns 3-1 a week ago in sweltering conditions at Bloomfield.

Finnpa's Coach, Jari Rantanen is optimistic of his side's success and he predicts a completely different game this time.

"We have to open up the game, as this might be our last chance to do something in Europe. We have a lot *of young* players in our side who want to make a name for themselves so they can move on to bigger clubs," said Rantanen, who also added that he hasn't ruled himself out from playing.

"Sukru Uzuner, the big Turkish forward caused a lot of problems for Hapoel's defense last week and another tall figure might give us the upper hand," said the tall coach.

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